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Arduous trek amid multiple challenges

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Siraj, Akash hit back to give India big lead

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NEARBY

CM, Biocon chief continue to spar over vaccines

BENGALURU
A social media debate has erupted between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw on the safety of COVID-19 vaccines and their long-term implications. » Page 8

HC stays BJP's defamation case against Dy. CM

BENGALURU
The High Court has stayed criminal proceedings against D.K. Shivakumar in a defamation case filed by the BJP for issuing "defamatory" advertisements accusing the then BJP government of corruption. » Page 8

Public ire over delay in Yellow Line launch

BENGALURU
Public frustration has boiled over, with citizens expressing their displeasure as one of Namma Metro's Yellow Line, faces another postponement.

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PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 7

PM Modi hails 35 million diaspora as India's pride

6th generation Indian-origin citizens of Trinidad and Tobago will receive OCI cards soon, he says; PM refers to close cultural link between Girmitiya community in the Caribbean nation and India

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Thirty-five million members of the Indian diaspora spread across the world are India's "pride", said Prime Minister Narendra Modi at an event of the people of Indian origin in Trinidad and Tobago on Friday. Addressing the event, Mr. Modi outlined various cultural, educational and financial measures that India is undertaking to strengthen links between the homeland and the diasporic Indians and announced that sixth generation Indian-origin citizens of Trinidad and Tobago will receive the Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) card soon.

"We deeply value the strength and support of our diaspora. With over 35 million people spread across the world, the Indian diaspora is our pride. As I have often said, each one of you is a *Rashtradoot* – an ambassador of India's values, culture and heritage," said Mr. Modi, highlighting the religious connection of the community with India and the Maha Kumbh that took place in Prayagraj earlier this year.

Warm welcome: Prime Minister Modi is welcomed by the Indian diaspora at the airport in Port of Spain on Thursday. Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar is also seen. PMO

Mr. Modi said the Government of India was working to strengthen ties with the Girmitiyas – the former indentured labourers who were taken from India during the colonial period to Indo-Pacific islands such as Mauritius, Fiji, southern Africa and the Caribbeans.

'Mapping the past'

The Prime Minister referred to the close cultural connection between the strong Girmitiya community of Trinidad and Tobago and India, especially with Bihar, which is recognised – along with eastern Uttar Pradesh – as the homeland of much of the Bhojpuri-speaking members of the Indian diaspora in the Caribbeans, southern Africa and in the Pacific islands of Fiji and Indian Ocean islands like Mauritius. Mr. Modi announced that the Government of India was "mapping the past" and reiterated that a number of initiatives were launched during the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas to "honour and connect with the Girmitiya community across the world".

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

SC to examine T.N.'s plea against HC stay on university laws

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to examine a petition filed by the Tamil Nadu government against an interim order of the Madras High Court on May 21 staying nine Acts which vest with the State, and not the Governor, the authority to appoint Vice-Chancellors in State-run universities.

A Bench of Justices P.S. Narasimha and R. Mahadevan issued notice to the petitioner in the High Court, advocate K. Venkatachalapathy; the Union government; the University Grants Commission (UGC); the office of the Tamil Nadu Governor; and the Human Resources and Development Ministry arraigned as respondents in the special leave petition filed by the State of Tamil Nadu.

The Bench observed that a transfer petition filed by the State to shift the case from the Madras High Court to the top court was already pending and scheduled to be listed soon after the summer vacations in mid July.

Transfer petition

Tagging the petition with the transfer plea, Justice Narasimha said the parties could approach the Chief Justice of India for an early hearing. The court preferred to wait for the respondents' response to a plea by the State for an interim relief of stay of the May 21 order.

The State argued that the High Court had ordered the stay on May 21 despite the Supreme Court, in an April 8 judgment, declaring that the Bills were granted 'deemed assent' by Governor R.N. Ravi. The State government had notified the proposed laws following the judgment.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

State vs UGC

Nine Acts empowered T.N. to pick V-Cs for State varsities

What T.N. says: Our appeal has raised questions of law with wide ramifications **pertaining to the issue of federalism and State autonomy** to establish, regulate and administer State Universities

UGC's argument: The Acts enacted by the Tamil Nadu government were completely **repugnant to the UGC Regulations of 2018**

Court restrains actor from making anti-Kannada remarks

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Bengaluru city civil and sessions court on Friday issued an *ex parte* temporary injunction restraining actor Kamal Haasan from making any statements having the effect of causing hurt or defaming the Kannada language, literature, land and culture.

The court also restrained the actor from posting, issuing or publishing or making any statement or remarks claiming linguistic superiority over Kannada language.

Madhu N.R., judge of the 30th Additional City Civil and Sessions Court, passed the order on a suit filed by the Kannada Sahitya Parishat (KSP), Bengaluru.

Direction to KSP

Meanwhile, the court directed the KSP to give public advertisement stating that it has filed the suit in a representative capacity on behalf of Kannadigas, in terms of the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code (CPC), while ordering issue of notice to Mr. Haasan and adjourning further hearing till August 30.

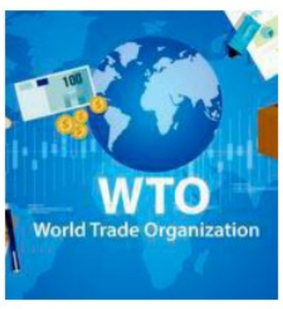
CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

India tells WTO it may levy retaliatory tariffs worth $724 mn on U.S. imports

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The Indian government has notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of its proposal to levy retaliatory tariffs amounting to nearly $724 million on the U.S. in response to that country's increased tariffs on the import of particular automobiles and parts from India.

The move comes at a time when India and the U.S. are in advanced stages of finalising an initial mini-



trade deal. India's negotiation team, led by Special Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Rajesh Agarwal, returned from the U.S. on Monday.

The U.S, on March 26, imposed a tariff increase of 25% ad valorem on passenger vehicles, light trucks, and certain automobile parts originating in India.

In a communication to the WTO dated July 3, India said that even though the U.S.' measures had not been notified to the WTO, they were in essence safeguard measures. It added that India's position on the matter was that the U.S. tariffs were not in accordance with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994, the agreement at the core of the WTO, and the Agreement on Safeguards (AoS). "As consultations provided for under Article 12.3, AoS have not taken place, India reserves the right to suspend concessions or other obligations under Article 8, AoS that are substantially equivalent to the adverse effects of the measure to India's trade," India said in its communication.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Golden spectacle

Hues of yellow: A large number of devotees throng the Gokak Sri Laxmi Devi Jatra Mahotsav, also known as Gokak bhandara jatre, dedicated to Goddess Laxmi, in Belagavi district on Friday, as the festival returned after a 10-year hiatus.

SEBI bans firm for market manipulation of ₹4,800 cr.

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned U.S.-based investment firm Jane Street from Indian securities markets for manipulating index and unlawfully earning ₹4,800 crore. The group has been ordered to transfer the amount.

FULL REPORT ON » PAGE 15

Nipah virus resurfaces in Kerala, two cases reported

Abdul Latheef Naha
MALAPPURAM

Nipah virus has returned to Kerala, sparking fresh fear in the State. An 18-year-old girl who succumbed to acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) in Kozhikode two days ago and a 38-year-old woman from Thachanattukara in Palakkad district currently undergoing treatment at a private hospital at Perinthalmanna in Malappuram district have tested positive for the virus.

The National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, on Friday confirmed Nipah infection in the 38-year-old woman. The scare has resurfaced in the State two months after the previous case.

A 42-year-old woman from Valanchery in Malappuram district tested positive and was admitted to a private hospital at Perinthalmanna in the first week of May. She is still recovering.

Following the 18-year-old girl's death, a post-mortem examination was conducted at the Government Medical College Hospital, Kozhikode.

Staff quarantined

As her test result came positive for the Nipah virus,

The latest Nipah case has surfaced in Kerala two months after a 42-year-old woman in Malappuram tested positive. FILE PHOTO/PTI

the doctors and the healthcare personnel who treated her as well as those who conducted her post-mortem examination have been quarantined.

A total of 345 people have been put on the Nipah contact list in the State, Health Minister Veena George said in a statement after a high-level meeting on Friday. They include 211 people in Malappuram, 91 in Palakkad, and 43 in Kozhikode.

The Health department had initiated all control measures in Palakkad even before the official conformation of the disease came.

The route map of the Nipah-positive person in Palakkad has now been released and Palakkad, Malappuram and Kozhikode districts have been put on alert.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

ED attaches ₹34.12 crore worth properties of Ranya Rao

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has provisionally attached immovable properties valued at about ₹34.12 crore of actor Ranya Rao in the gold smuggling case.

In a statement issued on Friday, the Directorate of Enforcement said the attachments have been made as "property equivalent in value to the untraced proceeds of crime identified during the course of investigation" under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

Ranya Rao was allegedly caught red-handed by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) sleuths while trying to smuggle 14.12 kg of 24-carat foreign-origin gold valued at ₹12.56 crore at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) on March 3.

Following this, the Central Bureau of Investigation, ED, Income Tax and Customs have joined the probe.

Raids by ED and CBI on Ranya Rao's residence had allegedly led to seizure of ₹2.67 crore in unaccounted cash and gold jewellery worth ₹2.06 crore.

Though Ranya Rao denied knowledge of the seized gold and other assets, her claims were demonstrably contradicted by the seized physical evidence, including customs documents bearing her name, travel and purchase records, and digital conversations, the ED said.

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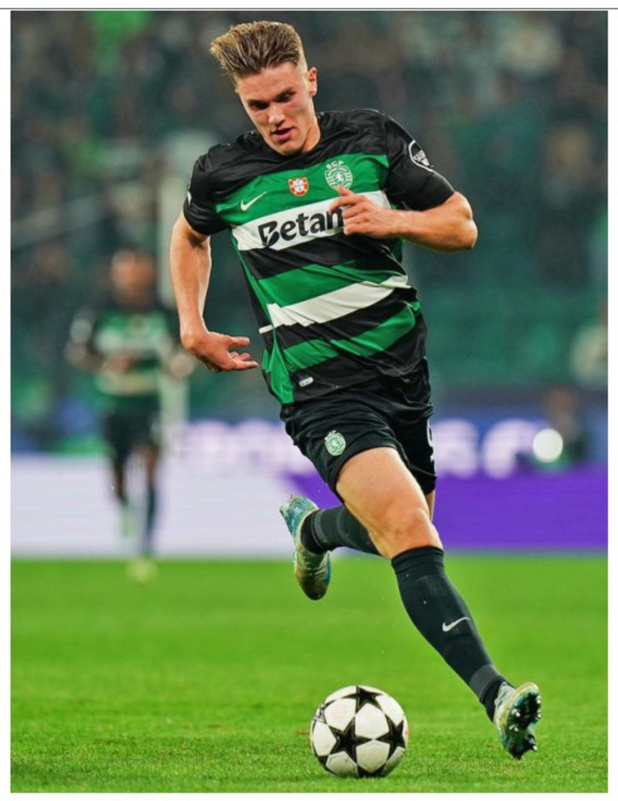
GETTY IMAGES

BENJAMIN SESKO


VIKTOR GYOKERES

RODRYGO

EBERECHI EZE

Can Arsenal find the missing puzzle pieces in the summer window?

After contending for the Premier League title in back-to-back seasons, the Gunners ran out of steam during an injury-hit 2024-25. They have obvious weaknesses to address — the shortage of firepower and thinness of the squad — but can they get all their transfer business done?

Sports Bureau

When Mikel Arteta took charge of Arsenal in December 2019, the club was in a bleak period: after three successive seasons of finishing outside the top four, it was languishing in tenth place.

But having left his role as Pep Guardiola's Manchester City assistant to replace the sacked Unai Emery, Arteta – in his first managerial job – began turning things around. Arsenal won the 2019-20 FA Cup under the stewardship of its former captain. But it was Arteta's success in changing the culture around the club while simultaneously rebuilding the squad that stood out.

The biggest step

The Spaniard transformed the Gunners into serial Premier League title contenders and a force to be reckoned with in Europe. Arsenal pushed City in 2022-23 and 2023-24, operating at a 100-point pace for large stretches in both seasons. In the summer of 2024, Arsenal confronted the biggest challenge every contending club faces: taking the final step.

The distance between finishing second and winning the championship is small on the league table. However, it requires an almighty, co-ordinated effort to bridge. Arsenal has had the Premier League's tightest defence, but even though it scored 91 goals in 2023-24, it was clear that it did not have the ruthless cutting edge in attack possessed by elite European teams.

The only forward signing Arsenal made in the 2024 summer transfer window was a desperate, last-minute loan deal for Chelsea winger Raheem Sterling, who wasn't the player he once was. Long-term injuries to Bukayo Saka, Kai Havertz and Gabriel Jesus during the 2024-25 campaign compounded the club's problems up front. There simply wasn't enough firepower.

Arteta publicly called for reinforcements in the January window to sustain a challenge both at home and in Europe. But the club, which was without former sporting director Edu, who resigned in November, did not sign an attacker. A move for Aston Villa striker Ollie Watkins broke down, forcing Arteta to use midfielder Mikel Merino as a makeshift No. 9.

Arsenal still managed to finish second in the Premier League, but Liverpool's title charge was never really threatened. As Arteta's men showed with statement wins over Real Madrid on their way to the Champions League semifinals and in a 5-1 demolition of City in the league, they aren't far from the promised land. But they lack the resources to complete the journey.

Arteta admitted to feeling disappointed at the lack of transfer activity when it was needed. "We talked very openly about the intention to improve the squad if we had the capacity. With players with injuries, we've been impacted and we haven't achieved it," he said. "We are disappointed but ... we couldn't do it for certain reasons and we have to accept it."

Plenty to do

This has left Arsenal with a lot to do this summer. In fact, without the emergence of academy boys Myles Lewis-Skelly and Ethan Nwaneri, who offered immediate solutions, the Gunners would have been in an even more complicated situation. In addition to signing top-end attacking talent, the club has several holes to fill in a squad that was desperately thin last season.

Signing experienced goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga for just £5 million, to back up Golden Glove winner David Raya, is smart business. But the task of replacing veteran central-midfielders Thomas Partey and Jorginho and finding cover for the overworked centre-back pairing of William Saliba and Gabriel Magalhaes is considerable.

> If you want to win major trophies, you have to be the best in the market. The teams that win have the best players, always, at this level
>
> **MIKEL ARTETA**
> Arsenal manager

Spain's Martin Zubimendi, a No. 6 coveted by Europe's top clubs, and Brentford captain Christian Norgaard are set to join the midfield next season while several young defenders, including Valencia's Cristhian Mosquera, are on Arsenal's radar. But new sporting director Andrea Berta's first transfer window in North London will be defined by the attacking signings.

The Athletic reported this week that Arsenal was in the market for a No. 9, a left-winger and a versatile attacker. This would require a significant financial outlay, especially for a club not known for spending as much as many of its rivals. It appears, however, that Arsenal's ownership is aware that the risk of not investing this summer – given how competitive the league already is and how committed other big teams are to strengthening – is substantial.

"If you want to win major trophies, you have to be the best in the market," Arteta said. "The teams that win have the best players, always, at this level. What is clear with the injuries we had in the front line is that we need threat, we need firepower. We cannot rely just on the numbers we had before. We have to add goals, we have to add creativity, we have to add numbers."

For the centre-forward position, Arsenal has been linked with Newcastle hitman Alexander Isak. The Magpies, however, have a strong hand in terms of the contract situation and are unlikely to listen to offers lower than £150 million. RB Leipzig's Benjamin Sesko and Sporting Lisbon's Viktor Gyokeres are reportedly the names Berta has done the most work on, but neither deal will be inexpensive. Besides, there are caveats with both strikers.

The 6'5" Sesko has incredible physical gifts: a freakish vertical leap and a rapid top speed. At 22, he has a high ceiling and is a good stylistic fit at Arsenal, given his ability on the ball. But he isn't the finished product yet. And Arsenal will be aware that 'project' centre-forwards have struggled to find their feet in England's top flight.

The 27-year-old Gyokeres has scored a staggering 97 goals in 102 matches for Sporting, powering the club to back-to-back Primeira Liga titles. There are, however, questions about the quality of the Portuguese league and how well those numbers will translate to the Premier League. There are also doubts about whether Arsenal's game-model platforms his strengths – Gyokeres' best work comes when running into large spaces and there isn't always space to run into with the Gunners because of how often they deal with lowblocks.

> What is clear is that we need threat, we need firepower. We cannot rely just on the numbers we had before. We have to add goals, we have to add creativity, we have to add numbers
>
> **ARTETA**

Market opportunities

Real Madrid's Rodrygo is reportedly Arsenal's top left-wing target. Played out of position on the right by Carlo Ancelotti, because of the presence of Kylian Mbappe and Vinicius Jr., Rodrygo wasn't always able to showcase his best. He also hasn't had a starting role in new coach Xabi Alonso's set-up at the Club World Cup, a situation that has attracted the attention of potential suitors, with Arsenal said to be leading the line. But a deal could prove complicated and potentially drag on until the end of the window.

Arsenal is also reportedly interested in Crystal Palace's Eberechi Eze and Villa's Morgan Rogers, versatile players who operate in advanced areas, suggesting that the club wants to add dribblers with the ability to produce special moments. Getting three offensive players in is likely to necessitate a sale, however, adding to Berta's busy worktray. But if Arsenal is to harbour ambitions of turning from contender to winner, this is a summer it can't afford to get wrong.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	10,430	16
2	Carlos Alcaraz	22	9,300	20
3	Alexander Zverev	28	6,500	24
4	Jack Draper	23	4,650	17
5	Taylor Fritz	27	4,635	21
6	Novak Djokovic	38	4,630	19
7	Lorenzo Musetti	23	4,140	20
8	Holger Rune	22	3,530	23
9	Daniil Medvedev	29	3,420	21
10	Ben Shelton	22	3,130	24
11	Alex de Minaur	26	3,085	22
12	Frances Tiafoe	27	2,990	25
13	Tommy Paul	28	2,970	20
14	Andrey Rublev	27	2,920	29
15	Casper Ruud	26	2,905	23

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 296 ▼ 2 spots

Mukund Sasikumar
Rank 415 ▲ 3 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	11,640	19
2	Coco Gauff	21	7,899	19
3	Jessica Pegula	31	6,483	21
4	Iga Swiatek	24	4,943	16
5	Jasmine Paolini	29	4,806	19
6	Qinwen Zheng	22	4,803	19
7	Mirra Andreeva	18	4,743	19
8	Madison Keys	30	4,484	19
9	Paula Badosa	27	3,684	22
10	Emma Navarro	24	3,610	25
11	Elena Rybakina	26	3,456	20
12	Amanda Anisimova	23	3,200	22
13	Elina Svitolina	30	3,094	16
14	Karolina Muchova	28	2,881	17
15	Diana Shnaider	21	2,776	27

Top Indians ▶

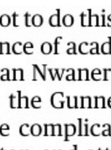
Shrivalli Bhamidipaty
Rank 322 ▼ 2 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 334 ▼ 1 spot

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	216	5
2	Lando Norris	McLaren	201	3
3	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	155	2
4	George Russell	Mercedes	146	1
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	119	0
6	Lewis Hamilton	Ferrari	91	0
7	Kimi Antonelli	Mercedes	63	0
8	Alexander Albon	Williams	42	0
9	Esteban Ocon	Haas	23	0
10	Nico Hulkenberg	Sauber	22	0
11	Isack Hadjar	Racing Bulls	21	0
12	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	14	0
13	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	14	0
14	Carlos Sainz	Williams	13	0
15	Liam Lawson	Racing Bulls	12	0
16	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	11	0
17	Yuki Tsunoda	Red Bull	10	0
18	Oliver Bearman	Haas	6	0
19	Gabriel Bortoleto	Sauber	4	0
20	Franco Colapinto	Alpine	0	0

Oscar Piastri


Lando Norris

F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	McLaren	417	8
2	Ferrari	210	0
3	Mercedes	209	1
4	Red Bull	162	2
5	Williams	55	0
6	RB	36	0
7	Haas	29	0
8	Aston Martin	28	0
9	Kick Sauber	26	0
10	Alpine	11	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	97,179	18
2	Anders Antonsen	92,253	18
3	Shi Yu Qi	91,517	13
4	Jonatan Christie	80,614	16
5	Li Shi Feng	79,678	18
6	Chou Tien Chen	78,979	23
7	Kodai Naraoka	73,204	20
8	Alex Lanier	72,951	15
9	Viktor Axelsen	69,440	10
10	Loh Kean Yew	66,719	19
11	Lu Guang Zu	61,860	18
12	Kenta Nishimoto	59,762	23
13	Weng Hong Yang	59,570	17
14	Lee Cheuk Yiu	57,192	20
15	Lin Chun-Yi	56,260	16

Top Indians ▶

Lakshya Sen
Rank 19

Ayush Shetty
Rank 31

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	1,11,120	11
2	Wang Zhi Yi	1,05,312	17
3	Akane Yamaguchi	86,364	14
4	Han Yue	85,550	17
5	Chen Yu Fei	73,885	10
6	Tomoka Miyazaki	71,964	22
7	Pornpawee Chochuwong	71,058	21
8	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	70,060	13
9	Supanida Katethong	65,107	15
10	Ratchanok Intanon	64,144	19
11	Putri Kusuma Wardani	62,450	17
12	Yeo Jia Min	61,583	17
13	Gao Fang Jie	60,810	12
14	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	60,360	16
15	Sim Yu Jin	56,039	14

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 17

Malvika Bansod
Rank 25

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	889	932
2	Harry Brook	874	898
3	Kane Williamson	867	919
4	Yashasvi Jaiswal	851	854
5	Steve Smith	816	947
6	Rishabh Pant	801	801
7	Temba Bavuma	798	806
8	Ben Duckett	787	787
9	Kamindu Mendis	781	784
10	Travis Head	756	884

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	907	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	859	902
3	Pat Cummins	846	914
4	Josh Hazlewood	817	864
5	Noman Ali	806	806
6	Matt Henry	782	782
7	Nathan Lyon	781	812
8	Marco Jansen	775	803
9	Jayden Seales	738	742
10	Mitchell Starc	732	807

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Babar Azam	766	898
3	Rohit Sharma	756	882
4	Virat Kohli	736	909
5	Daryl Mitchell	720	750
6	Harry Tector	708	767
7	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
8	Charith Asalanka	694	694
9	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693
10	Shai Hope	660	802

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Maheesh Theekshana	680	686
2	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
3	Keshav Maharaj	648	741
4	Bernard Scholtz	644	648
5	Rashid Khan	640	799
6	Mitchell Santner	637	657
7	Matt Henry	622	691
8	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733
9	Adam Zampa	614	699
10	Josh Hazlewood	603	727

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Travis Head	856	885
2	Abhishek Sharma	829	829
3	Tilak Varma	804	845
4	Philip Salt	791	881
5	Jos Buttler	772	774
6	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912
7	Pathum Nissanka	714	722
8	Tim Seifert	708	708
9	Kusal Perera	676	786
9	Reeza Hendricks	676	717

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jacob Duffy	723	723
2	Adil Rashid	710	747
3	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
4	Wanindu Hasaranga	700	809
5	Akeal Hosein	697	714
6	Adam Zampa	694	746
7	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
8	Maheesh Theekshana	666	686
9	Rashid Khan	664	828
10	Arshdeep Singh	653	679

KSTDC to open new restaurant on Nandi Hills to cater to growing crowd

The new facility will have transparent glass windows, which will provide a great view of the picturesque surroundings

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) is setting up a new restaurant - Mayura Sunrise - on top of the Nandi Hills, a popular tourist destination in Chickballapur district, to cater to the growing number of tourists visiting the hill every day.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah recently laid the foundation stone for the project when a Cabinet meeting held there.

The KSTDC currently operates Mayura Pine Top, a hotel which has its own restaurant, on top of the hills. The new restaurant is coming up in place of an old structure of the KSTDC, which has been demolished. "The number of visitors to Nandi Hills has increased in the last few years, and we are not able to accommodate all of them in the existing restaurant. Hence, we are constructing a new modern restaurant with transparent glass windows, which will provide a great view of the picturesque surroundings, along with other amenities," said a senior official.

The KSTDC currently operates Mayura Pine Top, a hotel which has its own restaurant, on top of Nandi Hills. K. MURALI KUMAR

CM recently laid the foundation stone for the project when a Cabinet meeting was held there

A recent survey by the KSTDC showed that 19.48 lakh tourists visited the Nandi Hills in 2023, while 21.32 lakh tourists visited the tourist spot in 2024. Based on the rate of growth between 2023 and 2025 (till January), the number has been projected to go up to 23.35 lakh in the ongoing year. In 2026, it is expected to go up to 26.51 lakh, in 2027 up to 29.25 lakh and in 2028, it is expected to reach 31.98 lakh tourists.

Annual footfall at Nandi Hills

Actual	
2023	19.48 lakh
2024	21.32 lakh
Projected	
2025	23.35 lakh
2026	25.51 lakh
2027	29.25 lakh
2028	31.98 lakh

"While footfall is expected to grow at approximately 9% a year, the actual growth of tourism and development facilities should be planned based on carrying capacity," the official said. The new 200-seater restaurant is part of the facility development plan.

Ropeway project

With work on the ambitious ropeway project expected to begin soon, the comprehensive development of the Nandi Hills, while also conserving its ecology, has taken centrestage. There is also a proposal by district in-charge Minister M.C. Sudhakar to stop the movement of private vehicles to the hill as a portion of the parking area atop the hill has been earmarked for a terminal of the ropeway.

In December 2024, around 12,727 vehicles (including cars and buses) and 21,149 bikes arrived at the Nandi Hills during weekends, according to the data.

Disciplinary action against 13 PIOs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Information Commission has penalised and taken disciplinary action against 13 public information officers (PIO) for not discharging their duties, to provide information under the Right To Information (RTI) Act.

A penalty of ₹25,000 each has been levied on the 13 PIOs, including the tahsildars, assistant executive engineers, and others working under the Bench - 2 of the commission.

"The PIOs play a significant role in the implementation of the RTI Act," said a note from the commission.

"Negligence of officials in providing information led to the public not getting to know about government schemes in a timely manner. The RTI Act is an important tool that helps in public welfare, and the action has been taken to ensure that the officers are not negligent," it added.

Woman arrested for killing husband

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A woman was arrested for allegedly killing her husband by beating him with a stick and trying to pass it off as natural death. The victim has been identified as Bhaskar, 42, a resident of Sadduguntepalya.

Bhaskar was reported to have died in his sleep on June 27. His wife Shruthi, 32, claimed he was an alcoholic, who came home drunk the previous night, went to sleep, and was dead when she tried to wake him up in the morning. The police had filed a Unnatural Death Registry report and got an autopsy done. Shruthi and family members performed the last rites. However, the autopsy report revealed that Bhaskar died of a head injury he suffered due to an assault with a blunt object. Following this, the police detained Shruthi and during interrogation, she reportedly confessed to have beaten him with a wooden stick.

Man held for sexually assaulting 7-year-old girl

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A salesman at a provision store allegedly lured a 7-year-old girl, who had come to buy biscuits, to a godown behind the store and sexually assaulted her. Based on the complaint by the victim's parents, the Bagalagunte police arrested 20-year-old Mohammed Haji, hailing from Kerala, under the POCSO Act, on Friday.

Door of house set alight over loan row

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A man, allegedly upset over a woman persistently seeking the return of the money lent years ago to his sister, poured petrol and set fire to the door of her house in Viveknagar past midnight on July 1. No one was injured in the incident.

The incident was caught on CCTV cameras. The police are on the lookout for the accused, who has been identified as the brother of the borrower, Parvati.

Venkataramani, a resident of Viveknagar, had lent ₹5 lakh to Parvati, a resident of the same area for the wedding of the latter's daughter a few years ago. However, Parvati had not repaid the loan and Venkataramani was reportedly persistently demanding her money back. Angered by this, Parvati's younger brother Subramani, allegedly attacked Venkataramani's house, the police said.

In the footage, a man is seen pouring an inflammable liquid on to the house's door and setting it on fire. The residents of the house rushed outside and put out the fire, and no one was injured, the police said. By the time they came out, the arsonist had fled from the scene.

Woman killed in road accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A woman riding pillion on a scooter with her husband was killed in an accident near Bennigana halli Railway Bridge on Friday. Mahadevaiah, 65, and his wife Menaka, 61, residents of A. Narayanapura were on their way to Indiranagar on Friday morning, when a speeding private bus rammed their scooter. Menaka was killed on the spot, while her husband escaped with minor injuries. A case was registered against the bus driver.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Financial Services
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -2, BENGALURU
Telephone Bhavan, BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Rajbhavan road, Bangalore - 560001

RC NO: 63/2019 — FORM NO.14 (See Regulation 33(2))

Vijaya Bank
(Now Bank of Baroda)
Kanakapura Branch
RES Complex, M G Road, Kanakapura
...Certificate Holder Bank

Versus

Sri. Mooregowda
...Certified Debtor/Defendants

DEMAND NOTICE

1. **Sri. Mooregowda** S/o Late Kadegowda Residing at Uyyambali Village, Doddahalahalli Post, Kanakapura -562117
...Certified Debtor/Defendants

In View of the Recovery Certificate issued in **OA : 1098/2017** passed by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, DRT, Bangalore an dated: **15.09.2018** an amount of **Rs.13,89,461/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Eighty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Sixty One Only)** is due against you along with interest and costs from date of filling of O.A.s till realization of the Recovery Certificate.

In addition to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay all charges and expenses incurred in respect, of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amount due.

You are hereby called upon to deposit the amount within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **24th day of August 2019.**

Sd/-
Recovery Officer-1,
Debts Recovery Tribunal-2
Bangalore.

Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act 1993 which is reproduced below:

"Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, nor shall any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.

(2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any Interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment."

(3) You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 year.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VINAYAK, s/o: Prakash Mudholkar Vasudevarao, r/o: F– G04, Anugraha Enclave Apt, 21st Cross, 2–A Main, Vignan Nagar, Blr 560075, Have Changed My Name As Vinayak Prakash Vide Afdvt on 03/07/2025

I, PRAKASH, s/o: Vasudevarao Raghavendra Mudholkar, r/o: F–G04, Anugraha Enclave Apt, 21st Cross, 2–A Main, Vignan Nagar, Blr 560075, Have Changed My Name As Prakash Mudholkar Vasudevarao Vide Afdvt on 03/07/2025

I, NISHA Dhiman, spous of Devendra Singh, R/at H No.93/94, Ganesh Layout, M S Palya, Bangalore-560097, have changed my name from Nisha Dhiman to Nisha vide affidavit dated 04/07/2025 sworn before S R Ravikumar, Bengaluru.

I, SRILAKKSHMI Joshi, W/o Chidananda Joshi, Residing at No.B-232, 6th Wing, B-Block, Abhignas Misty Woods, 35th Main Road, J P Nagar 6th Phase, Bengaluru -560078 hereby declare that I have changed my name as Srilakkshmi Joshi from Srilakkshmi Chidananda Joshi vide affidavit dated 03-07-2025 sworn before Notary Gangaraju.B.N, Bengaluru.

It's a large mountain, but there's a big road to hope: *Chris Martin* on Indian swimming's future

The National Programme Director advocates a long-term approach to athlete development — without an obsession with medals in age-group competition — as the way ahead. In this chat, he speaks about his experience in India, working with young swimmers and educating coaches

BISWARANJAN ROUT

INTERVIEW

Chris Martin

Y.B. Sarangi

In a little more than a year, National Programme Director Chris Martin, a seasoned swim coach who has worked in leading nations such as the USA, Great Britain and China, has identified what prevents Indian swimmers from reaching the elite level. He has also started working on a long-term vision.

In order to assess the situation, Martin first conducted three-day workshops in different States, including Tamil Nadu, Bengal, Kerala and Karnataka.

"The honest opinion is that he believes our Indian coaching system [to be] caught [up] in the 80s," said Swimming Federation of India (SFI) secretary Monal Chokshi. Consequently, Martin has conducted some courses 'which are finding acceptance among younger coaches'.

The SFI is also carrying out a National Talent Pool (NTP) programme, looking to make a mark by 2030. Recently, it sent 30 swimmers in their late teens for a high altitude camp in Armenia and expects positive results in the coming months.

During the National aquatics championships in Bhubaneswar in the last week of June, Martin spoke to *The Hindu* about the overall health of Indian swimming. Excerpts:

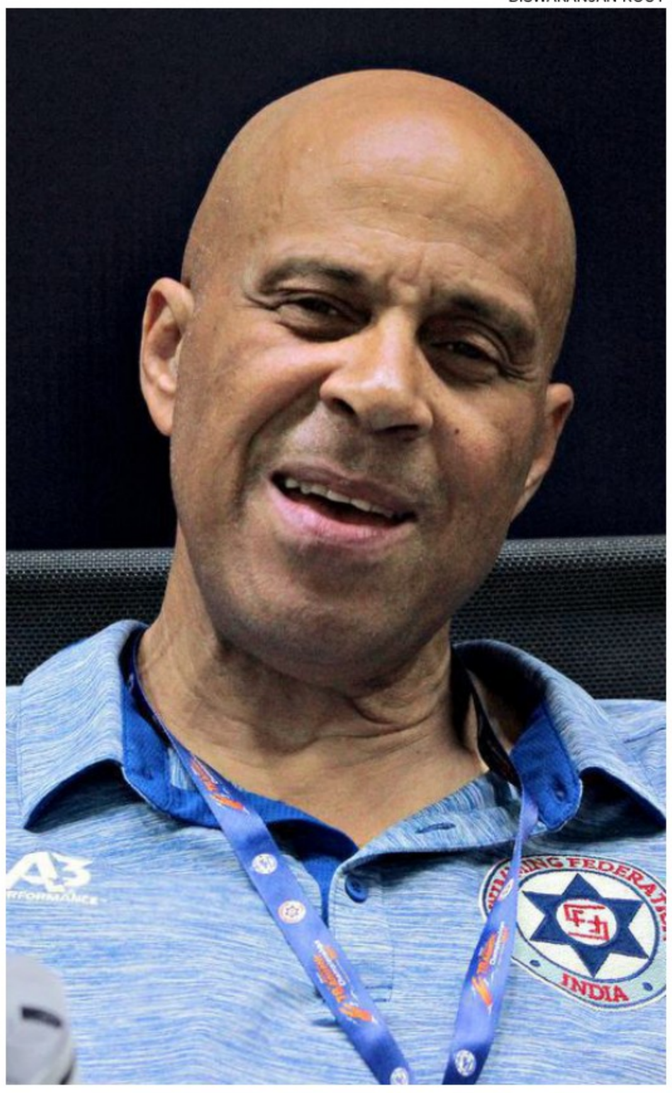
What have you seen in one year?

I was brought here to do a two-tier project – to do coach education and open a development pathway and try to get the kids on long-term athlete development. In a year, I've seen us get started in both, but I've also seen the tremendous amount that has to be done for that to succeed.

Can you highlight the areas of improvement?

We have to take a long-term athlete development approach. That involves a certain amount of training in a certain amount of years and to not be completely obsessed with medals along the way. If I open your newspaper, they'll say so-and-so won five medals...They'll never tell me the age...[and] the time. To get to the world standard, those are the two most important things. I feel we've made some efforts in both, really educating the kids on how they grow up and how training is presented to them and...think about what they can do down the line rather than what they can just get right now.

You're working with different coaches and systems all over the country.



> The people that get to the top of the Olympics... they're building people like you grow a tree. No one's measuring a tree by how many inches it grows in each year because it's organic

I also work for World Aquatics in coach education. I kind of brought one of the systems that we've done there to here. We've got an online introduction and then we have Level 1 and 2 courses. We've already put 100 coaches through Level 1 and another 80 in the wait-list from the online version. We've had 40 go through Level 2. The coaches' education, the expansion of knowledge is ongoing.

Looking at the advanced countries, what is the best model for India to follow?

The people that get to the top of the Olympic Games take an LTAV [Long Term Asset Value] approach – they're building people like you grow a tree. No one's measuring a tree by how many inches it grows in each year because it's organic. And, human beings are organic...One of the problems here is that there's a whole lot of swimming for money. Learn to swim, it's all cash business. People want to rush to have a five-year-old swim too long, or a six-year-old do backstroke...and this gets you set off on the wrong way. It has to match the growth rates of the kids.

Is it like what they say in athletics, 'Don't specialise so early'?

True, you don't want to do that. We've made some moves...in trying to take the 50-metre events out of the kids too young so that they can at least get some aerobic development. We've tried to separate the sub-juniors from the juniors because we have 11-year-olds saying, 'I'm the champion of India'. If you do that, what's the incentive for them to be the real champion of India, or even the champion of the world?

Does the system, or the swimmers or the coaches, need to unlearn something?

That's a tough question...what all of them need to do is to stop focusing on age group success. Most of the people that are in the Olympic finals, they are people that made the final push in their late teens, early twenties, and no one told them they were great when they were 10, 11, 12, 13, 14. That needs to be unlearned.

Should there not be any expectations from the age group?

Yeah, where I come from [USA], people put their kids in swimming to have fun, to have an activity, to learn and grow, and to get the lessons from swimming that go into regular life. I do run into parents who put their kids in swimming and say, 'Okay, if I don't get a medal by this year or two years, I'm getting you out, and there's a better use of time and money.' Which is obviously right, but we're not going to climb the world scale with that attitude.

What kind of natural talent have you seen here?

I'll give you this example, and it combines your question about natural talent and what needs to be unlearned. This Odisha project with JSW, which is a fantastic thing, they've reams and reams of little kids that they're starting to teach and engage...I looked at the smallest kids [who] were swimming backstroke in a very, very good position. I went to the juniors, only 50% of them were doing that. I went to the seniors, only less than a handful. The reason? I feel when those seniors were small kids, their parents paid for them to be able to learn 'backstroke' at a ridiculously early age and the proprioceptive model of how children move was not consulted.

What's the most heartening thing you've seen?

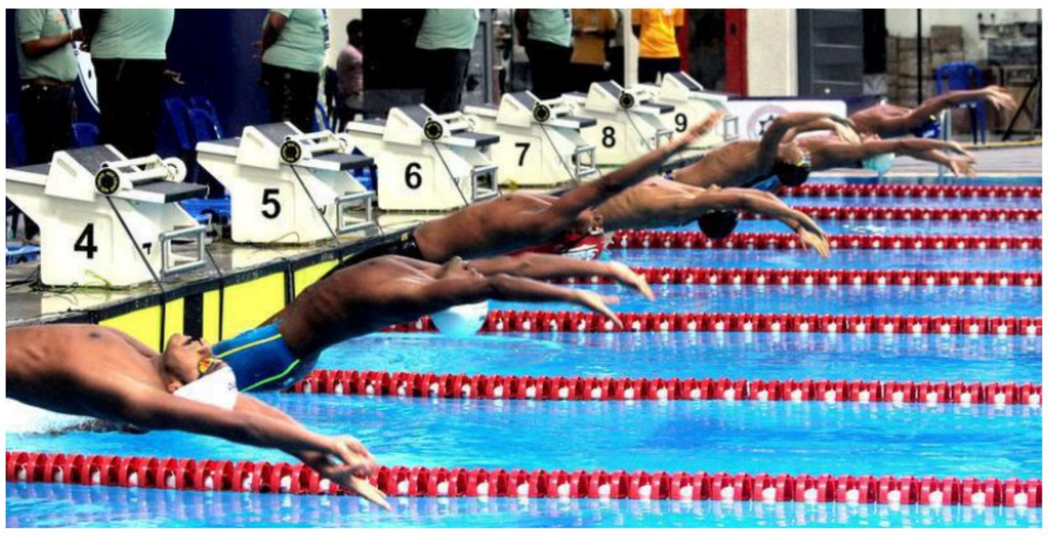
The response to the NTP has been very heartening. I make the kids write a logbook in the couple of weeks they spend with me, and what they write is absolutely fascinating.

What's the craziest thing?

The same thing. When I had 30 kids write a logbook, and they were ready to go home, I said, 'Here's your logbooks'. They said, 'No coach...If you give them to us, our parents and coaches, mainly our parents, will want to read what's inside.' I thought that was crazy.

Is it important to integrate all sorts of swimming clinics, coaching clubs?

It's pretty much impossible, and what we can do is try to get a base level of education...that's what I've done with that. In terms of integration, sports seems to be a business here. People are selling certificates, credentials, programmes, support networks and all this, selling supplements, selling everything. It's impossible to integrate that when so many people are trying to make economic gains...Basically short-term gains. I find the people running the SFI are progressive...everything that has been told to me has been very reasonable. I do find there's a big road to hope. It's a large mountain.

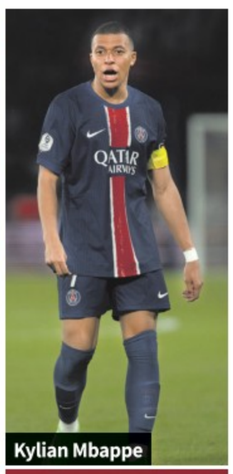


GAME THEORY

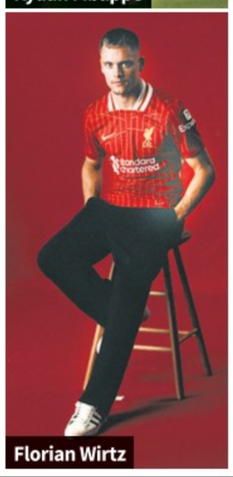
Spending spree: silly season's biggest deals

With the summer transfer window open and silly season in full swing, it is an opportune moment to look at the 20 most expensive player purchases in club football. Florian Wirtz's move from Bayer Leverkusen to Liverpool is the largest deal of the window so far and makes the top-10 in the all-time list

Neymar


Kylian Mbappe

Philippe Coutinho


Florian Wirtz

Most expensive transfers

Player	Buying club	Selling club	Fee (€ million)	Year
Neymar	PSG	Barcelona	€222	2017
Kylian Mbappe	PSG	Monaco	€180	2018
Philippe Coutinho	Barcelona	Liverpool	€145	2018
Joao Felix	Atletico	Benfica	€126	2019
Enzo Fernandez	Chelsea	Benfica	€121	2023
Antoine Griezmann	Barcelona	Atletico	€120	2019
Florian Wirtz	Liverpool	Leverkusen	€117.5	2025
Jack Grealish	Man. City	Aston Villa	€117	2021
Declan Rice	Arsenal	West Ham	€116.6	2023
Moises Caicedo	Chelsea	Brighton	€116.2	2023
Romelu Lukaku	Chelsea	Inter Milan	€115	2021
Ousmane Dembele	Barcelona	Dortmund	€105	2017
Paul Pogba	Man. United	Juventus	€105	2016
Jude Bellingham	Real Madrid	Dortmund	€103	2023
Eden Hazard	Real Madrid	Chelsea	€100	2019
Cristiano Ronaldo	Juventus	Real Madrid	€100	2018
Harry Kane	Bayern	Tottenham	€100	2023
Gareth Bale	Real Madrid	Tottenham	€100	2013
Antony	Man. United	Ajax	€95	2022
Cristiano Ronaldo	Real Madrid	Man. United	€94	2009

Note: Transfer fee refers to the fixed component of the deal as reported; it does not include the variable appearance- or performance-related additional fee

PICTURE THIS

Setup & punchline

The serve is a coveted weapon in tennis — since it's the only shot the player gets to hit without having to react to what the opponent is doing, it grants a significant advantage.

On slick, fast grass, the serve's value only increases. Even at Wimbledon, where there has been a deliberate effort to slow things down by changing the grass composition and making the balls heavier, the best servers can still dominate proceedings.

The serve can both set up a point, drawing a weak return that can be put away, or end it outright. And nobody has ended more points outright during an edition of Wimbledon than 6'10" American John Isner, who served 214 aces in 2018.

Goran Ivanisevic held the previous men's record for 26 years! The 6'4" Croat slammed 206 aces in his 1992 run to the final before bettering it during his 2001 triumph with 213 (still the record for the most aces in a victorious campaign).

Serena Williams, who had one of tennis' most formidable serves, owns the women's record for the most aces in an edition, smashing 102 on her way to winning the 2012 title.

Cartoon exhibition from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian Institute of Cartoonists is organising a special exhibition from July 5 to 26 showcasing cartoons by the late Aswathnarayana.

The exhibition will be open between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., at Indian Cartoon Gallery, Midford House. Aswathnarayana, worked at Bharat Electronics Ltd., continued to pursue his passion for cartooning.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, JUL. 05		
RISE	05:58	SET 18:50
RISE	14:15	SET 01:17
SUNDAY, JUL. 06		
RISE	05:59	SET 18:50
RISE	15:05	SET 01:56
MONDAY, JUL. 07		
RISE	05:59	SET 18:50
RISE	15:57	SET 02:39

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	28	20
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be dry. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

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THE HINDU
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Public ire mounts over constant deferral of Yellow Line launch

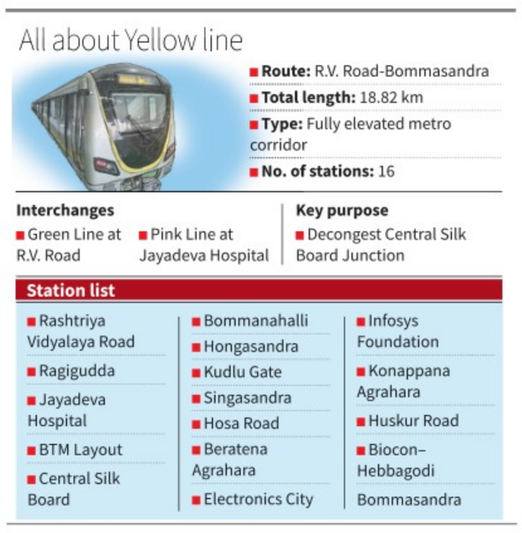
The much-anticipated corridor links R.V. Road with Bommasandra via the tech hub of Electronics City

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Public frustration has boiled over, with citizens and even elected representatives openly expressing their displeasure as one of Namma Metro's most crucial yet long-delayed projects, the Yellow Line, faces another postponement.

The much-anticipated corridor, which links R.V. Road with Bommasandra via the tech hub of Electronics City, remains unopened despite civil work being largely completed. This stretch holds strategic importance for Bengaluru's southern zones, especially for thousands of IT professionals commuting daily to and from Electronics City. Yet, due to multiple delays in rolling out trains and final safety clearances, the line has failed to become operational, inviting criticism and protest.

A file photo of the first set of a prototype six-coach train for Namma Metro's Yellow Line undergoing tests in the Inspection Bay Line at Hebbagodi depot in Bengaluru.



Lack of enough trains

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has repeatedly shifted deadlines, resulting in a total erosion of public trust. "We don't believe any timeline they give anymore. They have moved the goalpost so many times that people have stopped making plans around it. It's disappointing how such an important transport project can be delayed without accountability," said Ashwin Hegde, a resident of Bomanahalli. Poornima Murthy, a software engineer working in Electronics City, said, "I was genuinely excited about using the Yellow Line since the BTM Layout station is just a five-minute walk from my home. I have been waiting for years, but nothing has happened. It's a reflection of how poorly our systems are functioning."

The primary roadblock, according to BMRCL, is the lack of sufficient trains to operate the corridor. Officials have said that they are aiming to obtain clearance from the Commissioner of Metro Rail Safety (CMRS) by July mid with the aim of launching commercial operations by the end of July or the first week of August, using only three available trains to begin with.

Supply contract

The source of the delay lies in the coach supply contract awarded to Chinese firm CRRC in 2019. The ₹1,578-crore contract required CRRC to supply 216 coaches and establish a manufacturing unit in India. However, the company failed to meet this condition, severely disrupting the project timeline. BMRCL reportedly issued several notices to CRRC and even considered invoking a ₹372-crore bank guarantee due to non-compliance.

To rescue from this situation, CRRC partnered with Titagarh Rail Systems Limited, based in Kolkata. While this collaboration helped resume deliveries, the backlog and logistical challenges continued to slow progress. As a result, only two train sets were available for trial runs, which commenced on March 7, 2024, according to officials.

MP to protest

Meanwhile, the delays have prompted Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya to call for public protest. "Join in large numbers at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday at Lalbagh Main Gate as we march to the BMRCL Head Office in Shantinagar and demand. #YellowLineOpenMadi," Surya posted on X.

He further added, "Plagued by years of delay, the all-important Yellow Line between R.V. Road and Bommasandra is still not operational despite BMRCL missing multiple deadlines. Bengalureans continue to face daily traffic snarls, especially at Silk Board junction and other parts of the IT/BT corridor this line passes through. Our patience has worn thin. We feel taken for granted. This is not acceptable. It's time we speak to BMRCL in one voice."

Fare round-off will end: KSRTC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has clarified that its fare rounding-off practice was limited to about 400 premium buses and will soon be discontinued, following public complaints over discrepancies in ticket fares.

Passengers had raised concerns after noticing inconsistencies between the printed ticket fare and the amount collected, particularly on premium services like Rajahamsa, Airavat, Vaibhav, and EV Power Plus.

In a statement issued on Friday (July 4, 2025), KSRTC said the rounding-off was done only at Electronic Ticketing Machines (ETMs) and Awatar booking counters since the year 2016.

"For instance, fares between ₹101 and ₹105 were rounded down to ₹100, while fares between ₹106 and ₹109 were rounded up to ₹110," the corporation said.

"With digital payment modes like UPI now widely available, the rounding-off system is being scrapped. Software modifications are currently underway," the release added.

A senior KSRTC official said, "The rounding mechanism was introduced for convenience when digital change was limited. Now that UPI is active in almost all buses, we are eliminating this system to ensure fare transparency."

Purple Line services to be briefly curtailed tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) said that the services on a section of the Namma Metro's Purple Line will face a temporary suspension due to scheduled maintenance work on Sunday.

The maintenance will take place between Swami Vivekananda and Baiyappanahalli metro stations from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. During this one-hour period, services between Indiranagar and Baiyappanahalli stations will be curtailed. Services will resume as normal on this section from 8 a.m. onwards.

Other stretches, including Challaghatta to Indiranagar, Baiyappanahalli to Whitefield (Kadugodi), and Madavara to Silk Institute, will function without any disruption, following the regular Sunday schedule from 7 a.m., the release said.

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

Report highlights critical data gap on persons with disabilities in Indian justice system

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

A new study by Pacta, a Bengaluru-based law and policy think tank, has flagged a near-total absence of data on persons with disabilities in the justice system in India.

Across police, prisons, judicial, and legal aid systems, disability-disaggregated data is missing or inconsistent, making accountability and reform difficult.

Across police, prisons, judicial, and legal aid systems, disability-disaggregated data is missing or inconsistent, making accountability and reform difficult, the report says.
FILE PHOTO

Poor implementation

Titled "Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities in India: A Data-Informed Report", the report notes how the justice system, despite some progressive mandates, remains largely inaccessible to persons with disabilities due to the absence of reliable data and poor institutional implementation. "The United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD, 2008) provides a clear mandate for inclusion of persons with disabilities and maintaining disaggregated disability data. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (RPwD Act 2016) also reflects the same to some extent," it reads.

However, the implementation of national mandates at the level of States is fragmented and practices remain disparate, it notes.

According to the report, persons with disabilities are largely absent from justice sector jobs, with mandated employment quotas not being effectively implemented. The justice system also lacks the capacity to serve the needs of people with disabilities.

"For example, the NCRB Prisons Statistics Report of 2022 reveals a total of 69 sanctioned positions (58 for states and 11 for UTs) and 25 filled positions for psychologists/psychiatrists (21 for states and four for UTs) across State and UT prisons accounting for only 36.23% of the required strength," it points out.

The report also stresses on the inaccessible infrastructure, with many courts, police stations, and prisons remaining physically and digitally inaccessible, and even hostile for persons with disabilities despite legal mandates.

"Disability sensitisation in capacity building programmes for police, prison staff, judges and legal aid staff is lacking and insufficient. Efforts like Accessibility Committees exist in some High Courts, but the practise of appointing Accessibility Committees have not percolated to lower courts," it finds out.

While persons with disabilities are entitled to free legal services, they face barriers due to limited outreach, accommodations, and staff training.

"In 2023-24, persons with disabilities who accessed legal aid services at various levels was a mere 0.29% of the overall number of persons who accessed it," reads the study.

Call for action

Some of the action points suggested by the report include mandatory disability-disaggregated data in the justice system, public accessibility audits, transparent reporting of reasonable accommodations, and integration of disability rights into training curricula for police, judiciary, and legal aid actors.

"Over 26 million persons with disabilities in India continue to be excluded from the justice system. A relentless focus on disability inclusion through awareness, enforcement of reservation policies, infrastructure accessibility, and comprehensive data collection is needed to realise full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the justice system," said Nivedita Krishna, founder, Pacta.

Gp Capt. Shukla shares experience of life aboard ISS with students

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla interacting with students via ham radio at a session organised in Thiruvananthapuram.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, who is aboard the International Space Station (ISS) had a brief interaction with students who had gathered at the U.R. Rao Satellite Centre (URSC) here on Friday. He interacted with the student community via ham radio which lasted about 10 minutes.

The interaction overseen by the Amateur Radio on the ISS (ARISS) saw the participation of approximately 70 students who posed questions on the Indian astronauts journey to the space station and daily routine in the orbiting laboratory.

"One-and-a-half days (journey to the ISS) and thereafter you get to see the ISS... It was very exciting to see and the entire process of how the capsule approaches the station and then positions itself right in line with the docking port and thereafter goes ahead and docks into the port. It was a very, very exciting moment for me," Gp Capt. Shukla said replying to a question.

His Axiom-4 mission (Ax-4) to the International Space Station (ISS) was launched on June 25, 2025, from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. After a 28-and-a-half-hour journey on the ISS Dragon spacecraft, Gp Capt. Shukla and other crew members reached ISS.

He also spoke about the complex docking process. "So when we landed in the space station, there were two crew members who were able to reach the docking port. And thereafter you get to see the International Space Station, which is going to be your home for the next 14 days," he said.

The Gp Capt. also spoke about the experiments he has been conducting in the space station and how sleeping is a challenge there. "We have to tie our sleeping bags," he said.

HC quashes criminal case against Malayalam film director Ranjith

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday quashed a criminal case registered against Malayam film director Ranjith Balakrishnan on the allegation of sexually assaulting an aspiring male actor in December 2012 in a room of a hotel situated near the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru.

Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the order while allowing the petition filed by Mr. Ranjith, who had questioned the first information report (FIR) registered under Section 377 (carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal) of the Indian Penal Code, and under the provisions of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

The FIR was registered by the Bengaluru city police on October 26, 2024, on its transfer to Bengaluru by the Kerala State police before whom the actor had lodged the complaint earlier.

While allowing Mr. Ranjith's plea against the FIR, the court said it would release a detailed order later.

The court in December 2024 stayed the investigation into the case after noticing that the hotel in which the alleged offence was said to have been committed, did not even exist in 2012.

The complaint on the face of it is false as the Taj hotel near the international airport started its operation only in 2016, and this information is in the public domain, that is four years after the incident, the court observed while staying the probe while pointing out that "the vivid narration about the incident at Taj hotel is absolutely false and a canard".

Delayed complaint

The court, while staying the probe, had also noted that the delay of 12 years in lodging the complaint was left completely unexplained by the complainant while terming the complaint as "a classic case of *falsus in uno, falsus in omnibus* (false in one thing, false in everything)".

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. HE-TRD-2025-26-OT-17
Dated : 29-06-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
OHE Modification for provision of 2 additional loop lines at Bannihatti station.	Rs. 2,26,44,221.30

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs on 21-07-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ Traction Distribution/Hubballi
PUB/257/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

IN THE COURT THE XXXIV ADDL. CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, MAYOHALL AT BENGALURU
CC. No. 51380/2022
BETWEEN:
Satish Patchigolla @ Venkata Satish Patchigolla Son of late Patchigolla Satyanarayana Murthy Aged 52 years Residing at Flat No. G- 502 Tower-6, Adarsh Palm Retreat Devarabisanahalli, Bellandur Bangalore-560 103. ....COMPLAINANT
AND:
Godi Sathish Reddy Son of Pitchi Reddy Godi Aged 44 years Residing at Residing at Flat No. K203 Tower-6, Adarsh Palm Retreat Devarabisanahalli, Bellandur Bangalore-560 103.
Also residing at Plot No. 1291, Road No.65, Jubilee Hills Hyderabad-500034. ...ACCUSED
PROCLAMATION
Whereas, the Complaint has been made before the Hon'ble XXXIV Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bangalore (Mayo Hall) against the above named Accused has committed the offence (or is suspected to have committed) under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and a warrant of arrest was issued against the Accused and the said Accused Godi Sathish Reddy cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to Hon'ble XXXIV Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore(Mayo Hall) satisfaction that the Accused is absconding or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant. WHEREFORE, Proclamation will be made in The Hindu Newspaper that the said Accused is required to appear before the Hon'ble XXXIV Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore (Mayo Hall) to answer the said complaint on **5.8.2025.**
Given under my hand and seal to the Court. On this **4th day of July 2025.**
By Order of the Court.
SHERISTEDAR
XXXIV ADDL. CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE COURT
BENGALURU CITY
TRINETRA & PARTNERS
R Madhusudhana Reddy
Advocate
No.209, 2nd Floor, Mota Chambers, No.9, Cunningham Road, Bangalore-560052. Mobile: 9900062200

Govt. of Bihar
Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM)
Department of Labour Resources
A-Wing, 5th Floor, Niyojan Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-800001
Phone: 0612-2528455 Fax: 0612-2535004
Email: biharskilldevelopmentmission@gmail.com Website: www.skillmissionbihar.org
Notice Inviting Request for Proposal
RFP No: BSDM/RPL/RFP-119/2025
Secretary, Dept. of Labour Resources, Govt. of Bihar- cum- CEO, Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM), invites proposals (Single Bid System) from reputed and experienced organizations **to implement Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) with Bridge Course Program for Labour Resources Department, Govt. of Bihar under the overall framework of Bihar Skill Development Mission.**
Kindly note that the empanelment/selection of agencies under this RFP will not guarantee allocation of work and BSDM will assume no liability or cost towards it. BSDM makes no commitments, express or implied, that this process will result in a business transaction between anyone.
Document Fee and Tender Processing Fee: All Applicants must pay a non-refundable Document Fee of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) and Tender Processing Fee of Rs. 590.00 (Five Hundred Ninety only) through e-payment mode (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit Card/Debit Card) on E-Proc Portal.
[Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): An EMD of Rs. 50,000/- (Fifty Thousand) only, **through e-payment mode** (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit Card/Debit Card) on E-Proc Portal, before the last date/time for submission/ uploading of proposal, failing which the bid will be rejected. This EMD will be non-interest bearing and refundable. If the selected agencies fail to submit the requisite performance guarantee or to execute the agreement, this EMD will be forfeited.
The Proposal has to be submitted through online mode on https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and can be searched by clicking the Tab "Tender" on home page of above website and then going to Latest Tender by searching Department Name as "Labour Resources Department".
The application procedure, eligibility criteria, evaluation methodology, terms and conditions and the scope of work are detailed in the RFP document which can be seen or downloaded from the "e-Procurement Portal https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and departmental **website:** http://www.skillmissionbihar.org**.** The RFP will be **available to download** from the above websites **from "04/07/2025".** The last date for uploading of proposal will be **28/07/2025 up to 15.00 Hrs.** Proposal will be opened on or after **28/07/2025 post 16:00 Hrs. The Evaluation of proposals will be made as per criteria laid down in RFP.** Please refer RFP document for complete details.
Post selection and as and when required, the successful applicants will be intimated to register each RPL Location as a Skill Development Center (SDC) on the BSDM portal or other specified portal, if required (to be intimated later post shortlisting) by following due online registration processes and terms and conditions as specified and modified time to time by BSDM. The BSDM portal (as will be applicable) will cover the entire value chain of RPL Process right from registration of centers to candidates, batch formation, attendance management, monitoring, assessment & certification etc. along with registration of selected training partners/PIAs.
BSDM reserves the right to issue addendum/corrigendum/modification or to amend any or all conditions of this RFP Document or to accept or reject any or all proposal(s) or to cancel the whole of this RFP at any stage without assigning any reason thereof and no applicants/bidders shall have any cause of action or claim against the BSDM for the same.
This information is available on **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar also**
Mission Director,
Bihar Skill Development Mission,
Department of Labour Resources,
Govt. of Bihar
PR. No. 007733 (LRD) 25-26
नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

जल संसाधन विभाग
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
सिंचाई प्रमंडल, वीरपुर
बिहार सरकार
निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0–01SBD/2025-26
राष्ट्रीय स्पर्द्धा निविदा आमंत्रण
(केवल ई–टेन्डर पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
कार्य का विवरण –

क्रम सं0	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रू0 लाख में)	अग्रधन की राशि (ऑन लाईन अथवा फिजिकल /मैनुअल मोड में भुगतेय) (रू0 लाख में)	परिमाण–विपत्र का मूल्य (अप्रत्यर्पणीय) (केवल ऑनलाईन मोड में भुगतेय) रू0	बेलट्रॉन को देय "बीड प्रोसेसिंग फी" (अप्रत्यर्पणीय) :केवल ऑन लाईन मोड में भुगतेयद्ध रू0	कार्य पूर्ण करने की तिथि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	कोशी–मेची अंतःराज्यीय लिंक परियोजना (कि0मी0 0.00 से कि0मी0 44 .10) टर्न की के आधार पर	205430.00	2064.30	10,000/-	5900/-	36 माह

2. विज्ञापन दाता का नाम : कार्यपालक अभियंता, सिंचाई प्रमंडल, वीरपुर।
3. निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना निर्गत करने की तिथि : दिनांक 02.07.2025
4. निविदा कागजात डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की अवधि : दिनांक 22.07.2025 के 10.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से दिनांक 04.08.2025 के 03.00 बजे अपराह्न तक। (केवल वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)
5. प्री–बीड मीटिंग का समय, स्थान एवं तिथि : दिनांक 25.07.2025 को 03.00 बजे अपराह्न में मुख्य अभियंता, सिंचाई सृजन, जल संसाधन विभाग, सहरसा के कार्यालय कक्ष में।
6. तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 05.08.2025 के अपराह्न 03.30 बजे (केवल वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर)।
7. वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : सक्षम पदाधिकारी द्वारा बाद में वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर घोषित की जायेगी।
8. निविदा खोलने का स्थान : केवल वेबसाईटwww.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर।
9. निविदा की वैद्यता अवधि : 120 दिन
10. विशेष जानकारी प्राप्त करने हेतु : वेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in / www.wrd.bih.nic.in / www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
सिंचाई प्रमंडल, वीरपुर
मो0 :–8294254572
PR- 007679 (WRD) 2025-26
नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

Govt. of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Vijayapur
Tel.No:08352-277816, Fax.No:08352-277817,
E-Mail:zpebjp9@yahoo.co.in
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಾಇಂ/ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇ.ವಿ/ವಿಜ/ಇಪ್ರಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/2025–26/821 ದಿನಾಂಕ:04.07.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)
Executive Engineer, PRE Division, Vijayapura has invited e-tender for the works under the 5054 Grant scheme for the year 2024-25 Work Indent No. RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT16240, 16245, 16211 & 16243 Rs. 200.00 Lakhs. Total 4 works vide Tender Publication No.821 Date:04.07.2025. Last Date for submission of Tender is 19.07.2025 time 5.30 PM.
For more information about the tender, the information can be collected at the website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in or visit the office of the said Division during office hours.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Vijayapur
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/165/ಕೆಎಸ್.ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
NOTIFICATION
Bengaluru, 24 June, 2025
S.O. 2842(E) - In exercise of the powers conferred by clause 37(A) of Section 2 of the Railways Act, 1989 (Act no. 24 of 1989) the Ministry of Railway (South Western Railway, Construction Organization, Bengaluru Cant.) hereby notifies the project, as "Special Railway Project" mentioned in the table below, in the State of Karnataka and State of Andhra Pradesh for providing National Infrastructure for a Public Purpose with effect from date of publication of the notification in the Official Gazette.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project
1	Construction of Double Line between Ballari - Chikjajur stations (185Km)

No.W.271/CN/BNC/2025-26/Land SRP/1727
For details log on: https://egazette.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer / Construction / General
Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/254/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
NOTIFICATION
Bengaluru, 24 June, 2025
S.O. 2841(E) - In exercise of the powers conferred by clause 37(A) of Section 2 of the Railways Act, 1989 (Act no. 24 of 1989) the Ministry of Railways (South Western Railway, Construction Organization, Bengaluru Cantonment) hereby notifies the project, as "Special Railway Project" mentioned in the table below, in the State of Karnataka for providing National Infrastructure for a Public Purpose with effect from date of publication of the notification in the Official Gazette.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Village	Taluk	District
1	Construction of ROB and LHS in lieu of LC No. 33 between Hirehalli - Kyatsandra at Ch: 59/800-900	Pandithanahalli	Tumakur	Tumakur
2	Construction of ROB and LHS in lieu of LC No. 44 between Tumakur - Mallasandra at Ch: 75/300-400	Heggere	Tumakur	Tumakur

No.W.271/CN/BNC/2025-26/Land SRP/1727
For details log on: https://egazette.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer / Construction / General
Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/253/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No. Sr. DEE (RS&G) BSP/OTP/25-26-06, Dtd: 26.06.2025
Name of work: 1. Electrical portion of work "Improvement of Electrical System at ELTC/USL & DTC/BSP including lighting at bogie park." **2.** Construction of office buildings for SSEE/G/UMR and SSEE/G/BRJN. **3.** Electrical portion of the work "Bilaspur Division: Improvement of Health Unit at RIG station."
Tender Value (Approx): Rs. 31,12,478.72/-, EMD amount: Rs. 62,300/-, Tender Closing Date Time-25/07/2025, 15:00 Hrs.
For further details, eligibility criteria & complete details for the above work, please refer/download tender document which is available on website **www.ireps.gov.in.**
Sr. Divl. Elect. Engg.(RS&G)
CPR/10/135 S.E.C.Railway, Bilaspur
South East Central Railway @secrail

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 18 UBL 2025-26
Dated : 26.06.2025
The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	Hubballi Division : Proposed Construction of Goomty (2 No's), S & T building and approach Road at Bannihatti Station.	Rs. 4,06,56,754/-
2	Hubballi Division : Extension of 03 No's of bridges (11, 11A, 11B) in Bannihatti Yard.	Rs. 4,08,33,948/-
3	Hubballi Division : Proposed 02 additional looplines at Bannihatti Station.	Rs. 3,32,82,205/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Up to 11.00 Hours on 21-07-2025
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-ordination
PUB/258/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Hubballi**
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

BIHAR SKILL DEVELOPMENT MISSION (BSDM)
Govt. of Bihar
Department of Labour Resources, Government of Bihar
A-Wing, 5th Floor, Niyojan Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-800001
Phone: 0612-2528455 Fax: 0612-2535004
Email: biharskilldevelopmentmission@gmail.com **Website:** www.skillmissionbihar.org
Notice Inviting Request for Proposal
RFP No: BSDM/Training Partner/RFP-120/2025
Secretary, Dept. of Labour Resources, Govt. of Bihar- cum- CEO, Bihar Skill Development Mission (BSDM), invites proposals (Single Bid System) from reputed and experienced organizations **to implement employment linked Domain Skill Development Program under Labour Resource Department, Govt. of Bihar under the overall framework of Bihar Skill Development Mission. Training partners those have placement opportunities available through verifiable placement tie-ups can only apply under this RFP.**
Kindly note that the empanelment/selection of agencies under this RFP will not guarantee allocation of work and BSDM will assume no liability or cost towards it. BSDM makes no commitments, express or implied, that this process will result in a business transaction between anyone.
Document Fee and Tender Processing Fee: All Applicants must pay a non-refundable Document Fee of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) and Tender Processing Fee of Rs. 590.00 (Five Hundred Ninety only) through e-payment mode (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit Card/Debit Card) on E-Proc Portal.
[Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): An EMD of Rs. 50,000/- (Fifty Thousand) only, **through e-payment mode** (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit Card/Debit Card) on E-Proc Portal, before the last date/time for submission/ uploading of proposal, failing which the bid will be rejected. This EMD will be non-interest bearing and refundable. If the selected agencies fail to submit the requisite performance guarantee or to execute the agreement, this EMD will be forfeited.
The Proposal has to be submitted through online mode on https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and can be searched by clicking the Tab "Tender" on home page of above website and then going to Latest Tender by searching Department Name as "Labour Resources Department".
The application procedure, eligibility criteria, evaluation methodology, terms and conditions and the scope of work are detailed in the RFP document which can be seen or downloaded from the "e-Procurement Portal https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and departmental **website:** http://www.skillmissionbihar.org**.** The RFP will be **available to download** from the above websites **from Date- 04/07/2025.** The last date for uploading of proposal will be **Date 28/07/2025 up to 15.00 Hrs.** Proposal will be opened on or after **Date-28/07/2025 post 16:00 Hrs. The Evaluation of proposals will be made as per criteria laid down in RFP.** Please refer RFP document for complete details.
Post selection and as and when required, the successful applicants will be intimated to register each training center as a Skill Development Center (SDC) on the BSDM portal or other specified portal, if required (to be intimated later post shortlisting) by following due online registration processes and terms and conditions as specified and modified time to time by BSDM. The BSDM portal (as will be applicable) will cover the entire value chain of skill development value chain right from registration of centers to candidates, batch formation, attendance management, monitoring, assessment & certification etc. along with registration of selected training partners.
BSDM reserves the right to issue addendum/corrigendum/modification or to amend any or all conditions of this RFP Document or to accept or reject any or all proposal(s) or to cancel the whole of this RFP at any stage without assigning any reason thereof and no applicants/bidders shall have any cause of action or claim against the BSDM for the same.
Mission Director,
Bihar Skill Development Mission,
Department of Labour Resources
PR. No. 007732 (LRD) 2025-26
For further details please visit : **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**
गर्भावस्था की पहली तिमाही में माँ की एच.आई.वी. और सिफलिस की जाँच जरूर करायें।

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
INDIAN RAILWAYS INSTITUTE OF SIGNAL ENGINEERING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TARNAKA ROAD, SECUNDERABAD - 500 017 (INDIA)
PUB/0806
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
Centre of Excellence (CoE) / IRISET working under Ministry of Railways seeks response from Prospective associate (s) for
1. **EOI Notice no. CoE - IRISET - 01 - 25, dated : 02-07-2025 :-** "Development of Open Protocol (Multi OEM interoperable) Transparent Radio, based on Dual 2 - FSK / QAM Modulation for Onboard and Ground Applications" Product Prototype including field trials and through joint development program route to pursue existing need of Indian Railways.
2. **EOI Notice no. CoE - IRISET - 02 - 25, dated : 02-07-2025 :-** "Development of Open Protocol (Multi OEM interoperable) Transparent Radio, based on 2 - FSK Modulation for Onboard and Ground Applications" Product Prototype including field trials and through joint development program route to pursue existing need of Indian Railways.

Interested parties are advised to see & keep watching all the updates on the following websites in connection with aforesaid EoI notice.
Websites : https://www.ireps.gov.in, https://iriset.indianrailways.gov.in and https://iriset.railnet.gov.in
Principal Executive Director, (CoE), (IRISET), Secunderabad.
A0998

From Page One

ED attaches ₹34.12 crore worth properties of Ranya Rao

"Despite the seizure of 14.2 kg of smuggled gold and associated assets by the DRI, the total proceeds of crime identified during ED's investigation have been quantified at ₹55.62 crore. This includes approximately ₹38.32 crore identified through analysis of the evidence gathered during the course of investigation by ED through foreign invoices, customs declarations, and hawala-linked remittances. The same has been corroborated through searches conducted by ED," the statement further said, indicating she had smuggled gold on multiple trips from Dubai to Bengaluru and not the March 3 trip alone.

"As a substantial portion of the proceeds of crime had been layered and reinvested into immovable assets to project them as untainted, ED has provisionally attached four properties of Ranya Rao of equivalent value," the ED said.

The attached properties include a residential house in Victoria Layout, a residential plot in Arkavathi Layout, Bengaluru, agricultural land in Anekal and industrial land in Tumakuru district.

"The attachment has been carried out to prevent concealment or alienation of the tainted assets and to secure the proceeds of crime. Further investigation is under progress to trace the remaining proceeds of crime and identify other individuals and entities involved in the syndicate," the ED said in its statement on Friday.

Modus operandi

The ED said that the agency's investigation revealed that Ranya Rao, in active collusion with Tarun Konduru Raju and others, orchestrated a well-structured operation for smuggling gold into India.

"Gold was procured from suppliers based in Dubai, Uganda, and other countries, and payments were made through hawala channels in cash, thereby circumventing legal financial systems. False customs declarations were filed in Dubai fraudulently declaring the destination of gold shipments as Switzerland or the United States of America (USA), while the actual travel of the gold smugglers was to India. Dual sets of travel documents were used – one for the declared export destination and the other for their actual arrival in India, to evade scrutiny and facilitate smuggling through Indian airports," the ED said.

Further investigation has revealed that the smuggled gold was then sold within India in cash to jewellers and other local entities, and the proceeds were subsequently laundered through further hawala remittances abroad to finance repeat consignments for smuggling more gold into India, the ED said.

"Evidence retrieved from the seized mobile phones and forensic extraction of digital devices, have revealed detailed coordination with foreign gold suppliers, hawala operators, and Dubai-based customs agents," the ED said. Ranya's involvement was further corroborated by her digital footprint, which includes invoices, export declarations, foreign remittance records, and recorded chats, the ED added.

Wait continues for farmers as CM seeks time to study legal issues

They warn of intensifying their agitation with the support of Samyukt Kisan Morcha if their demand is not met

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The wait for the Devanahalli farmers, who have been protesting for the last 1,187 days seeking shelving of the process of acquisition of their lands for the proposed Aerospace Park, continues as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah sought another 10 days' time to examine legal issues concerned. The Chief Minister held a meeting with the representatives of the farmers here on Friday.

Pointing out that the final notification too had been issued for the acquisition of land in April, the Chief Minister told farmers' representatives that the government would need time to examine the pros and cons of their demands. He informed the representatives that he would hold the next meeting with them on July 15. Legal experts had flagged some obstacles related to denotifying the land, the Chief Minister said.

Warning to CM

Though the farmer leaders agreed, they insisted that the government should announce the denotification of their lands during the next meeting. They warned of intensifying their agitation along with the support of Samyukt Kisan Morcha if their demand was not met.

For talks: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah meeting farmers, activists, and local leaders from Channarayapatna in Devanahalli taluk at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The farmers of Channarayapatna hobli of Devanahalli taluk have been demanding that the notification on acquisition of 1,777 acres of land in 13 villages of the taluk be shelved. The Chief Minister, who had made a pre-poll promise of shelving the land acquisition, had agreed to meet their leaders as their protest became broad-based after various progressive organisations lent their support to them and began a representational dharna at Freedom Park of Bengaluru from June 27.

Protest to continue

Meanwhile, the Struggle Committee, comprising the farmers and activists, announced that the protest would continue till the next meeting with the Chief Minister. While the protest at Freedom Park would be shifted to Channarayapatna of Devanahalli taluk, the activists would hold awareness meetings with farmers at all the 13 villages of the taluk from which the lands are set to be acquired.

Additionally, the demand for shelving the land acquisition process would become part of the nationwide agitation of workers on July 9, the activists said.

'Gift' from farmers

About 25 representatives of protesting farmers including farmers' leaders Badagalapura Nagendra, Chukki Nanjundaswamy, prominent leaders from the 13 villages and activists Mavalli Shankar and Indhudhara Honnapura were among those who met the Chief Minister.

In a bid to drive home a message that the best varieties of fruits, vegetables and flowers are grown on their fertile lands, they carried samples of their crops including mangoes, flowers and vegetables to the Chief Minister as a gift.

Meanwhile, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha leaders, including Rakesh Tikait, addressed a State-level convention in support of the protesting farmers.

Farmer dies of heart attack

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A farmer who had come to Bengaluru to participate in the protest at Freedom Park against land acquisition in Devanahalli taluk, collapsed and died of a heart attack in the Majestic area of Bengaluru shortly after he deboarded a train from Mysuru on Friday morning.

The deceased, identified as, Eshwarappa, 50, was a resident of Kurubarahundi village, Gundlupet taluk, Chamarajanagar district. Shortly after he got down at Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Bengaluru Railway Station, he reportedly collapsed at Sangolli Rayanna Circle by the roadside while he was walking to Freedom Park. Though he was immediately rushed to a nearby private hospital, he died later.

'Decision on Hemavati link canal project after spot inspection'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti V. Somanna on Friday said a decision on the continuation of work on the Hemavati River Link Canal Project in the Tumakuru district will be taken after a spot inspection of the canal work.

Mr. Somanna, who is also MP from Tumakuru, and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, chaired a meeting with elected representatives of Tumakuru and other districts and decided to take a final decision on the project after the spot inspection of the works done so far and feasibility of the supplying water to other districts.

Blame on govt.

Farmers and BJP, and JD(S) leaders accused the ruling Congress of attempting to divert water to taluks of Bengaluru South district (Formerly Ramanagara).

Tumakuru Rural MLA Suresh Gowda and Tumakuru City MLA Jyothi Ganesh demanded a feasibility study report from IISc on the link canal project. They would support the project if it is based on scientific data, they argued. However, diversion of water of the district to other districts without scientific basis would be opposed, they said.

24.85 lakh tonnes of rice distributed to ration card holders in 2024-25

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka distributed nearly 24.85 lakh tonnes of rice free of cost to ration card holders under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) during the 2024-25 financial year, marking a slight increase from the previous year's figure of 24.80 lakh tonnes, according to data presented at the State Level Consultative Committee (SLCC) (under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution) meeting held on Friday.

The meeting, chaired by Rajya Sabha MP Iranna Kadadi, reviewed the performance of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Karnataka and examined State-centre coordination on food procurement and distribution.

As per officials, the FCI facilitated the delivery of 24,85,799 tonnes of rice to NFSA beneficiaries, who receive 5 kg of food grain per person per day free of cost.

The meeting also highlighted the Central government's interventions in the open market to stabilise food prices, notably the release of 4,60,959 tonnes of rice and 1,05,065 tonnes of wheat through the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS).

These releases, officials said, were aimed at controlling rising market prices and ensuring affordability for consumers.

Mr. Kadadi raised concerns over what he described as the Karnataka government's failure to meet procurement targets for essential grains such as ragi, paddy, and jowar under Minimum Support Price (MSP) provisions.

Chemists' body seeks probe into unregulated ad campaigns by online medicine sellers

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Highlighting the proliferation of "psychologically manipulative, anti-competitive and legally non-compliant" pharmaceutical advertising campaigns being run on social media by unregulated online medicine sellers and retail chains, the Bangalore District Chemists and Druggists Association (BCDCA) has complained to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) seeking a comprehensive probe.

In a representation submitted to the CCI chairperson Ravneet Kaur on July 3, the chemists body has said such advertising campaigns mislead consumers and exploit emotions while promoting irrational medicine use. Such campaigns also undermine regulated pharmacy practice - fuelling antimicrobial resistance and endangering public health, the representation stated.

"The CCI should take *suo motu* cognizance of the grave and growing menace posed by unregulated pharmaceutical advertisements, deceptive discounting strategies, and algorithm-driven predatory pricing on social media and digital platforms. These practices are not merely anti-competitive - they represent a direct assault on public health, patient safety, and ethical pharmacy practice across our nation," the representation stated.

Legal investigation

"We appeal to the CCI chairperson to conduct a detailed legal investigation into the functioning, algorithms, and pricing models of unregulated digital medicine sellers and retail chains of medical stores and their affiliated advertising networks," BDCDA president B. Thirunavukkarasu told *The Hindu* on Friday.

"We want the CCI to set up a dedicated 'Social Media and Digital Platform Monitoring Cell' to check the unregulated advertisement campaigns on social media. The cell should comprise representatives from Narcotics Control Bureau, Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, Department of Consumer Affairs, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority, Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), State Food Safety and Drug Administration and Pharmacy Council of India (PCI)," he said.

Real-time surveillance

"This cell should be empowered with real-time surveillance, penal enforcement powers, and regulatory oversight capabilities to combat and dismantle what now amounts to 'National Public Health Terrorism' - where commercial digital platforms, for profit, are compromising the very sanctity of ethical healthcare delivery," he asserted.

Demanding that legal proceedings be initiated and interim restraint orders be issued against the violators, Mr. Thirunavukkarasu said: "The CCI should recommend or direct the immediate suspension of advertisement campaigns involving Schedule H/H1 medicines lacking proper prescription safeguards. It should also mandate the enforcement of standardised public health disclaimers across all digital medicine-related advertisements."

EC initiates process to cancel registration of 10 political parties

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Election Commission has initiated the process of cancellation of the registration of 10 unrecognised political parties in the Bengaluru district, as these parties have not contested in any election since 2019, and their offices could not be traced.

Ambedkar Janata Party, Bharatiya Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Janata Party, Bharatiya Praja Party, Kalyana Kranti Party, Karnataka Praja Vikas Party, Mahila Pradhana Party, Namma Congress, Praja Raitha Rajya Party, Rakshaka Sena and Samajwadi Janata Party (Karnataka) are the 10 registered parties.

The parties have not contested any Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Assembly, or Assembly byelections in the past six years, and they currently do not have any known addresses, a release by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) said.

"The Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka has issued show cause notices under the powers conferred by Article 324 of the Constitution of India and under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. These notices question why the registration of such parties should not be cancelled," the release said.

As per a BBMP release, the parties have not contested any Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Assembly, or Assembly byelections in the past six years

The notices served by Assistant District Election Officers provide parties an opportunity to present their explanation. Written representations along with the required documents and affidavits can be submitted by the presidents or general secretaries of the parties. "If no response is received within the stipulated deadline, the Election Commission may proceed with issuing appropriate orders, as mentioned in the Show Cause Notices issued to these 10 parties," the release said.

M. Maheshwar Rao, Chief Civic Commissioner, BBMP, who is also the Bengaluru District Election Officer, has urged the representatives of the parties to appear in person on the date of hearing and utilise the opportunity to submit their written statements.

'The Conscience Network' launched

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Conscience Network, A Chronicle of Resistance to a Dictatorship, written by Sugata Srinivasaraju, was released in Bengaluru by former Lokayukta N. Santosh Hegde, former Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner Chiranjiv Singh and writer K. Marulasiddappa. Senior journalist A.V.S. Namboodiri was the chief guest.

The book talks of the lesser-known but significant role of the Indian diaspora in the U.S., whose growing influence and vocal opposition to the Emergency emerged as a powerful force.

Former Lokayukta N. Santosh Hegde, former Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner Chiranjiv Singh, and author Sugata Srinivasaraju at the book launch on Friday.

Some of the book's principal protagonists, including activist S.R. Hiremath, were present at the event.

Ramaiah hospital gets JCI accreditation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city-based Ramaiah Memorial Hospital (RMH) has received the Joint Commission International's Gold Seal of Approval for hospital accreditation.

The hospital underwent a rigorous on-site survey conducted under JCI's 8th Edition framework, where international expert surveyors evaluated RMH for 15 chapters, 237 standards, and 1,094 measurable elements for its compliance on quality, patient safety and governance.

The hospital was recently recognised as a Comprehensive Stroke Centre by the American Stroke Association and received the Comprehensive Chest Pain Centre Certification by the American Heart Association.

"Receiving JCI accreditation is a validation of our relentless pursuit of excellence in patient care," said M.R. Jayaram, chairman, Gokula Education Foundation (Medical).

Admissions open

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka State Open University, Mysuru, has begun admissions for the academic year 2025-26 (July cycle) for various undergraduate, postgraduate, diploma, and certificate courses.

Programs offered include BA, BCom, BSc, BCA, BBA, and others.

Spotlight

Read longform articles from our regional editions

- **Delhi:** Kolhapuri chappal row: Ground beneath their feet **newsth.live/kolhapuri**
- **Andhra Pradesh:** Vizag's fight against rising homeless population **newsth.live/homelesspeople**
- **Telangana:** Bride, betrayal and bloodshed in Telangana **newsth.live/newlyweds**
- **Kerala:** Sabari project: lives paused by a rail line **newsth.live/sabariproject**
- **Tamil Nadu:** A place of pilgrimage in Ariyalur that blends the Tamil culture with faith **newsth.live/pilgrimage**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Complaint over decade-old murders, rapes at Dharmasthala to be probed

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The complainant, who offered to show police the places where the bodies were buried, claimed that some of the murders had taken place in his presence in a 'cruel manner'

The Dharmasthala police in Dakshina Kannada district registered a case on Friday, a day after a person complained that he was allegedly forced to bury many bodies in the jurisdiction of Dharmasthala village more than a decade ago.

There were bodies of persons, both men and women, who were murdered and raped, the complainant alleged, requesting police to conduct an inquiry into those deaths by exhuming the remains.

The person, who offered to show police the places where the bodies were buried, claimed that some murders had taken place in his presence in a "cruel manner". The police who registered the complaint (Crime Number 39/2025) under Section 211(a) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), after obtaining court permission, stated in a release that they will investigate the complaint in accordance with the law.

As the complainant has requested anonymity, his address and other details will not be revealed, the release said. The person had filed the complaint with the Dharmasthala police and the SP on Thursday.

Meanwhile, in the complaint, which was released by advocates Ojaswi Gowda and Sachin Deshpande, the complainant said that he worked as a sanitation worker in Dharmasthala from 1995 to 2014. Later, he fled Dharmasthala to a neighbouring State, fearing a threat to life and family, he said. The complainant, who had sought protection from the police, said that he had come forward to disclose the information now, after a decade, out of remorse. Justice should be done to the dead, the complainant said. Those behind the deaths were "powerful" persons, the complainant said, adding that their names and roles behind the deaths will be revealed once he and his family get protection under the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam.

The complainant claimed that during 1998, when he refused to bury the bodies and told his supervisor that police should be informed, he was beaten up and issued a life threat. The person claimed that he had burnt some bodies using diesel.

The complainant also claimed that he and his family were forced to flee Dharmasthala after a girl in his family was sexually harassed.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the public that my client intend to purchase the property more fully described in the schedule hereunder from its lawful owner SRI **C.S.NANJAPPA** S/o Sri C.C. Subbaiah, Aged about 52 years. 5th Block, Nagarabhavi 2nd stage, Behind KLE College, **BENGALURU-560072.** and if any person(s) having any objections or claims, may send their objections with all supportive documents to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of this publication failing which my client would proceed to purchase the Schedule Property as if there is no claim or objections.

All that piece and parcel of immovable property **Site bearing No.1106/1** and BDA **PID No.6000000442,** formed by Bengaluru Development Authority, presently known as **"3rd Block, Sir M Vishveshwraya Extension"** within the administrative limits of BDA measuring East to West: 9 mtrs and North to South: 12 mtrs. **totally measuring 108 sq. mtrs** and bounded as follows:-

East by :Private Property
West by: Site No.1106/2
North by : 80 ft Road
South by : Private Property

Sd/-
N ADINARAYANA REDDY, RAVICHANDRA REDDY N A
Advocate
No.403-10-2, 13th Main, Gokula 1st Stage, 1st Phase, HMT Layout, Mathikere, Bengaluru-560054
Cell:+919845706889
E-mail-anare.nadv@gmail.com
Place: Bengaluru Date: 04-07-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client, **Mr. A Murthy S/o. S T Arumugam,** R/at. No.469/1-8, 14th Cross, G M Palya, Byrasandra Main Road, New Thipasandra, Bangalore-560 075, has negotiated to purchase Schedule property from its owner **Mrs. Nalini Ravichandran, w/o. Ravichandran,** No.5, Shrishti, 8th Cross, LBS Nagar, Brindavan Layout Layout, HAL, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore-560 017. The said owner has represented to our client that she is the absolute owner and that she has not created any other mortgage on the Schedule property.

People at large and all the concerned, private individuals, government/ semi-government institutions / bodies / authorities, if has got any right, title, interest, or share in Schedule property or anybody who has objection for the aforesaid transaction are herewith publicly informed to raise their objection/s in writing along with supportive documents to the undersigned within **FIFTEEN [15] DAYS** from publication of this Public Notice. If the same are not received in writing along with supportive documents by the undersigned within **FIFTEEN [15] DAYS** from publication of this public Notice, then it will be construed that the title to the said property is clear and that all such concerned have waived their rights and all such concerned shall be estopped from raising any objections thereafter and that we shall proceed thereafter further in the execution of the Sale Deed/s or such agreements and all such persons shall be estopped from raising any objections to such transaction thereinafter.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing **Site No.5,** HASB Katha No.381/1, New HASB Katha No.381/1/5, New E-PID No. 2130003513, situated at **Shrishti, 8th Cross, LBS Nagar, Brindavan Layout, HAL, Vimanapura Post, Ward No.87, HAL Airport, Banaglore-560017,** measuring East to West **30 feet;** North to South **41 feet;** in all admeasuring a total extent of **1230 square feet or 114.27 Sq. Mtrs** together with duplex house measuring about **2999.997 sq feet or 278.70912 Sq. Mtrs** standing thereon and bounded on:

East By : House Site No.4; West By : House Site No.5; North By : Private Property; South By : Road;

SAAN Law Associates
S.M. ANEES AHAMED
Advocates
No.4 (10/2), G. Floor, West Park Road, Kumara Park East, Bangalore-560 002,
saanlawassociates@gmail.com
M : 98450 08707
Place: Bangalore Date: 04/07/2025

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001. Ph: 080 25310066
E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **23.07.2025 (10.30 AM to 11.00 AM),** for recovery of **Rs. 12,07,68,320/-** as on **02.07.2025** with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank** from **(1) M/s. Khoday Silk Streams** No.25, Old No.29, 3rd floor Behind Reddy Petrol Bunk, N S Iyengar Street, Seshadripuram Bengaluru-560020, **(2) Smt. Padma Bai,** No.23, 2nd Main, 5th Block Seshadripuram, Kumara Park West Bangalore-560020,**(3) Sri Suresh S Khoday,** No.23, 2nd Main, 5th Block Seshadripuram, Kumara Park West Bangalore 560020, **(4) Sri Eshwara K N,** No.24, New No.24/5, 4th Floor Jayamahal Road, Jayamahal Extn Bangalore-560094.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **22.07.2025, 5.00 pm.**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Lot No	Description of the immovable/movable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
1	Flat @ Fourth Floor of Residential property site no.24, as per bifurcation new no.24/5,PID NO. 92-15-24/5 in the 4TH floor situated at Jayamahal road, Jayamahal extension BBMP WARD NO. 92, Measuring One Fifth (1/5TH) UDS in the land measuring East to west: 60 feet, North to south: 80 feet which work out to 960 Sq.ft. right in the land along with entire fourth (4th) floor with Super Built up area of 2400Sq ft owned by Mr Eshwara K N and bounded by: East:site no 24/1 measuring on that side 80ft, west Jayamahal road measuring on that side 80ft. North main road measuring on that side 60ft. And south: Government quarters measuring on that side 60 ft. **Coordinates of the property: Latitude 13.001334, Longitude 77.594602**	₹. 222.03	₹.22.21	1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 6381952519, 8949226557 and 9483544116 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 04.07.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(YERAMARUS THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582

e-AUCTION SALE NOTIFICATION

RPCL invites bids from reputed agencies through GoK e-procurement platform **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for **(1) KPCL/2025-26/Auction 102, dtd: 01.07.2025** for disposal of hazardous type of scrap materials and **(2) KPCL/2025-26/Auction 101, dtd: 01.07.2025** for disposal of Non-hazardous type of scrap materials on **"as is where is basis".** Last date to confirm participation is **on 17.07.2025** for Sl.No. (1) & **18.07.2025** for Sl.No. (2).

BRIEF-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Procurement of the following: **(1)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1779, 26.06.2025-Dense phase pyrite hopper consumables spares. **(2)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1777, 26.06.2025-Anticorrosive panels. **(3)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1776, 26.06.2025-Transmitters for YTPS. **(4)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1775, 26.06.2025-APH soot blower spares. **(5)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1767, 25.06.2025-Spares for hot PA control dampers of boilder and auxiliaries. **(6)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1766, 25.06.2025-Bearings for Condenser Vacuum Pumps. **(7)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1765, 25.06.2025-HP-1103 Mill spares for Scrapper Chamber. **(8)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1764, 25.06.2025-Mechanical seal for delta lube oil pump. **(9)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1763, 23.06.2025-Terminal studs. **(10)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1755, 23.06.2025-Soft Iron Gaskets for YTPS. **(11)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1756, 23.06.2025-Hardox plates for hot PA duct. **(12)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1752, 21.06.2025-Fuel oil & SH spray system. **(13)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1748, 21.06.2025-CPU resins. **(14)** KPCL/2025-26/IND1749, 21.06.2025-Citric Acid. Last date & time for bid submission: **16.07.2025, 16.00 hrs** for Sl.No. (1), (3), (4) & (6), **14.07.2025, 16.00 hrs** for. Sl.No. (2) & (10) to (13), **15.07.2025, 16.00 hrs.** for Sl.No. (5), (7) & (8), **10.07.2025, 16.00 hrs.** for Sl.No. (9) and **11.07.2025, 16.00 hrs.** for Sl.No. (14).

All relevant details are available in the above said e-Portal. Further details can be obtained from the office of the **Executive Engineer (MSP), RPCL-YTPS, Yeramarus-584134, Dist: Raichur, Mobile: 8277889196, 9480682892, e-mail: eemsprpcl@gmail.com.**

THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LTD

ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH
Divisional Office Building, No.6, Shri Vasavi Temple Road, Near Sajjan Rao Circle, V V Puram, Bangalore - 560004

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, **The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd,** the constructive/physical (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.,** Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** on **22.07.2025** for recovery of **Rs. 47,43,906.91/- (Rupees Fourty Seven Lakhs Fourty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Six and Paisa Nine One only)** due to **"The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd",** Secured Creditor from **(1) Mr. Mohammed Aslam S/o Mr. Mohammed Osman, Represented by GPA Holder-Mohammed Osman** Residing at Flat No. 10, Building No. 6384 Riyadh – 42656, Saudi Arabia **(2) Mr. Mohammed Osman (Guarantor)** S/o. Mohammed Haneef, Residing at No. 405, Manga Enclave, A. T. Agraharam, 4th Lane, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh-522 004 **(3) Mrs. Azmatuniss (Guarantor)** W/o. Aslam Mohammed Residing at No. 405, Manga Enclave, A. T. Agraharam, 4th Lane, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh-522 004.

The reserve price will be Rs. 52,00,000/-(Rupees Fifty Two Lakhs only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 5,20,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs and Twenty Thousand only)

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing No. 158, Khatha No. 162, measuring East to West 85 feet and North to South 45 feet, admeasuring 3825 sqft formed in converted land in Sy No. 183 as per orders dated 15.09.2008 passed by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore vide Order No ALN (A) (K) S.R 44/2008-09, wherein an approval has been accorded by the BMRDA vide its Sanction Letter bearing No. LAO 56/2008-09 dated 28.01.2009 situated at Thattanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District; Bounded on: East by: Sy No 184, West by: Site No. 157, North by: Site No. 149 and South by: Road.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in our Bank's/ Secured Creditor's website i.e **www.kvb.co.in/Property** Under Auction also at the web portal **BankAuctions.in/ForeclosureIndia.com** of the service provider, **M/s. 4 closure.**

Statutory 15 Days' Notice under Rule 9(1) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002

The borrower/s and guarantor/s are hereby notified to pay the dues as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-Auction, failing which the Schedule property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date : 04.07.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorized Officer
THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LIMITED

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bengaluru-560001
Ph:080-25310066, E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 25.07.2025 (10.00 AM to 10.30AM), for recovery of Rs. 12,90,77,128.11/- (Rupees Twelve Crore Ninety Lakh Seventy Seven Thousand One Hundred Twenty Eight and Eleven Paise only)** as on **02.07.2025** with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from (1) M/s Covalent,** No.46/2, (Ravi Edible Oil Refinery Compund), Bisuvanahalli, Doddaballabpur Road, Bengaluru Rural District-561203. **(2) Sri P Roshan** S/o Sri Paramashivaiah, No.48, 2nd Main Road, Palace Guttahalli, Bengaluru-560003.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **24.07.2025 - 5.00 pm.**

(₹.In Lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1	Residential site carved out of lands in Sy No. 168 of Kodihalli village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk converted for residential purpose vide b.DIS.ALN.SR/6362 dated 21.03.1974 now within the limits of BBMP and bearing Municiple No. 168, PID No.74-1-168 situated at old airport road, Kodihalli, Bengaluru under corporation ward No.74, Jeevana Bhimanagar and the site measuring 1935 sq ft. Boundaries of the site: East by: property belonging to Bandiyappa, West by: Diamond district apartment, North by: old Airport road, South by: Remaining portion of Vinay Kumar. **Owner of the property: Mr. P Roshan. Co-ordinates of the site: Latitude: 12.960222, Longitude: 77.644278.**	₹. 400.54	₹. 40.05	₹. 1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066, 9439058121, 9966397756, 8098415841 and 9039609346 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 03.07.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, BENGALURU
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560 001

WARRANT OF ATTACHMENT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

(See Sec.25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 48 to 51 of the II Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961)

Before the Debts Recovery Officer - II
Debts Recvoery Tribunal - 1 Bengaluru
RC No. 60/2024 IN OA No. 576/2021

Between : Karnataka Bank Limited, Subhashnagar Branch, RBDGT Building, Gubbi Thotadappa Road, Subhashnagar, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 023 **...Certificate Holder Bank**

And

Sri. Raveendra Kumar M & Another ...Certificate Debtor

Certificate Debtors:

(CD 1) Sri Raveendra Kumar M., S/o. Moodalagiriyappa, No. 4148, 1st Floor, 3rd Main, 14th Cross, Gayathrinagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 021.
Also at : No. 212, 3rd Floor, 18th Main, Subramanyangar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 021
Also at : No. 1824 7th Main E Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 010
Also at : 2585, 11th A Main, 1st Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 010
Also at : 594, 2nd Floor, T Dasarahalli, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Bangalroe, Karnataka - 560 057.
Also at : Venkatadri Nilaya Banninagara, Ranganath Nagar, Sira Tumkur, Karnataka - 572137
(CD 2) Sri Vishwanath V., S/o. C. V. Reddy, No. 261, 2nd Stage, 13th Main, Swethamarga, Siddarth Nagar, Mysore, Karnataka - 570 011.
Also at : Sri Sathya Sai Grama, Muddenahalli, Chikkaballapura - 562 101.
... Defendants/Certificate Debtors

Whereas you were ordered by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal Bangalroe (DRT-1) who had issued above named Certificate Debtor were ordered by **RC No:60/2024 in O.A.No:576/2021** of this Tribunal to pay to the Applicant Bank (Certificate Holder), the sum of **Rs.1,67,26,339.64** (Rupees One Crore Sixty Seven Lakhs Twenty Six Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Nine and Paise Sixty Four Only) along with cost, expenses and future interest @ 12.95% p.a.compound interest with monthlyrests from 16.06.2021 i.e. date of filing of OA No. 576/2021 till the dateof realization in full jointly, severally and personally from the certificate debtor , hereafter referred to as:

CD Name	Int. Type/ mode	Int. Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Libility Type	RC Amount (Rs.)
1: Sri Raveendra Kumar 2: Sri Vishwanath V	Compound Interest (Monthly)	12.95% p.a.	16.06.2021	31.03.2023	Jointly and severally	16726339.64

This is to command you to attach the immovable property of the said Certificate Debtors as set forth in the Schedule hereunto annexed and unless they shall pay to you the above said sum and the costs of this attachment, to hold the same until further orders from the Recovery Officer.

You are further commanded to return the Warrant on or before April 2025 with an endorsement certifying the day on which and the manner in which it has been executed, or why it has not been executed.

FIRST SCHEDULE : DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY MORTGAGED BY THE DEFENDANT NO. 1.

Item No. 1 : All that piece and parcel of the residential property measuring 2040 sq.ft with building constructed thereon, bearing City Municipal Assessment No. 1336/1282/1227, situated in Banninagara Layout, Sira Town & Taluk, Tumakuru District, measuring East to West 34 feet and North to South 60 feet. Boundaries of Property : East by : House of Rajamma W/o. Late Giriyappa, West by : House of Hemalatha, North by : Municipal Galli, South by : Municipal Road.

Item No. 2 : All that piece and parcel of Industrially converted land measuring 2.00 Acres, bearing Sy. No. 109 & Re-Sy. No. 109/2, Old Sy. No. 32/5, situated in Halkur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumakuru District. Boundaries of Property : East by : Land bearing Sy. No. 32, West by : Sy. No. 33, North by : State High Way and Margin Road, South by : Remaining Portion of Sy. No. 109.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on **18.03.2025**

Sd/- (P. H. Hemanth Kumar, IRS), Recovery Officer-II, Debts Recovery Tribunal - 2, **Bengaluru**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II,
BSNL Builiding 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road Bangalore - 560001

NOTICE FOR SETTLING A SALE PROCLAMATION

(See Sec. 53 of the II Schedule to the Income Tax Act 1961 read with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993).

Before the Debts Recovery Officer - II
Debts Recvoery Tribunal - 1 Bengaluru
RC No. 60/2024 IN OA No. 576/2021

Between : Karnataka Bank Limited, Subhashnagar Branch, RBDGT Building, Gubbi Thotadappa Road, Subhashnagar, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 023 **...Certificate Holder Bank**

And

Sri. Raveendra Kumar M & Another ...Certificate Debtor

Certificate Debtors:

(CD 1) Sri Raveendra Kumar M., S/o. Moodalagiriyappa, No. 4148, 1st Floor, 3rd Main, 14th Cross, Gayathrinagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 021.
Also at : No. 212, 3rd Floor, 18th Main, Subramanyangar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 021
Also at : No. 1824 7th Main E Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 010
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Also at : 594, 2nd Floor, T Dasarahalli, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Bangalroe, Karnataka - 560 057.
Also at : Venkatadri Nilaya Banninagara, Ranganath Nagar, Sira Tumkur, Karnataka - 572137
(CD 2) Sri Vishwanath V., S/o. C. V. Reddy, No. 261, 2nd Stage, 13th Main, Swethamarga, Siddarth Nagar, Mysore, Karnataka - 570 011.
Also at : Sri Sathya Sai Grama, Muddenahalli, Chikkaballapura - 562 101.
... Defendants/Certificate Debtors

Whereas you were ordered by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal Bangalore (DRT1) who had issed Recovery Certificate 60/2024 in OA 576/2021 to pay to the Certificate holder bank the sum of **Rs.1,67,26,339.64** (Rupees One Crore Sixty Seven Lakhs Twenty Six Thousands Three Hundred Thirty Nine and Paise Sixty Four Only) along cost and future interest @12.95 % p.a. Compound interest with monthly rest from 16.06.2021 i.e., date of filing of the OA to till the date of realization in full, jointly, severally and personally from the certificate debtor , hereafter referred to as:

CD Name	Int. Type/ mode	Int. Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Libility Type	RC Amount (Rs.)
1: Sri Raveendra Kumar 2: Sri Vishwanath V	Compound Interest (Monthly)	12.95% p.a.	16.06.2021	31.03.2023	Jointly and severally	16726339.64

the outstanding liability in this matter as on **31.01.2025 is Rs.2,56,91,464.00 (Rupees Two Crore Fifty Six Lakhs Ninety One Thousand Four Hundred and Sixty Four Only)** and whereas the said amount along with cost, expenses and future interest are not paid by you, the undersigned has ordered the sale of undermentioned immovable property.

You are hereby informed that the day on or after fifteenth day from the date of service of this notice has been fixed for drawing up the proclamation of sale and settling the terms thereof. You are requested to bring to the notice of the undersigned any encumbrances, charges, claims or liabilities attaching to the said properties or any portion thereof.

FIRST SCHEDULE

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY MORTGAGED BY THE DEFENDANT NO. 1.

Item No. 1 : All that piece and parcel of the residential property measuring 2040 sq.ft with building constructed thereon, bearing City Municipal Assessment No. 1336/1282/1227, situated in Banninagara Layout, Sira Town & Taluk, Tumakuru District, measuring East to West 34 feet and North to South 60 feet. Boundaries of Property : East by : House of Rajamma W/o. Late Giriyappa, West by : House of Hemalatha, North by : Municipal Galli, South by : Municipal Road.

Item No. 2 : All that piece and parcel of Industrially converted land measuring 2.00 Acres, bearing Sy. No. 109 & Re-Sy. No. 109/2, Old Sy. No. 32/5, situated in Halkur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumakuru District. Boundaries of Property : East by : Land bearing Sy. No. 32, West by : Sy. No. 33, North by : State High Way and Margin Road, South by : Remaining Portion of Sy. No. 109.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on **18.03.2025**

Sd/- (P. H. Hemanth Kumar, IRS), Recovery Officer-II, Debts Recovery Tribunal - 2, **Bengaluru**

समाहरणालय, गया जी

(मद्यनिषेध,शाखा)
ज्ञापांक 1784/म०नि०, गया जी,

अति अल्पकालीन सूचना

वजरिये नोटिस सूचित किया जाता है कि बिहार मद्यनिषेध एवं उत्पाद अधिनियम 2016 की धारा– 56 (घ) के अंतर्गत अवैध रूप से देशी/विदेशी शराब की परिवहन करने के आरोप में विभिन्न थाना/काण्डो में जब्त वाहनों का बिहार मद्यनिषेध एवं उत्पाद अधिनियम 2016 की धारा– 58 (2) के प्रावधानों के तहत राज्यसात (Confiscate) की गई है।

वजरिये नोटिस द्वारा वाहन स्वामी को उत्पाद (संशोधन) नियामावली, 2022 (यथा संशोधित) के नियम–12(क) के निहित प्रावधानो के आधार पर नवीनतम बीमाकृत मूल्य की शास्ति (Penalty) की राशि जमा कर वाहनों को मुक्त कराने हेतु एक अंतिम अवसर प्रदान किया जा रहा है वाहन स्वामी दिनांक– 20/07/2025 तक प्रपत्र IV में शास्ति पर वाहन मुक्त कराने हेतु कार्यालय, सहायक आयुक्त मद्यनिषेध गया में आवेदन कर सकते हैं। दिनांक– 20/07/2025 तक आवेदन प्राप्त नहीं होने पर वाहन नीलाम कर दिया जाएगा।

अधिहरित/राज्यसात वाहन का विवरणः–(कर्नाटक राज्य से संबंधित वाहन)

क्र० सं०	उत्पाद अधिहरण वाद सं०	थाना का नाम	काण्ड सं०/उत्पाद वाद सं०/दिनांक	वाहन का प्रकार	वाहन पंजीकरण सं०	इंजन सं०	चेचिस सं०	वाहन मालिक
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	25/23 17.07.2023	वजीरगंज	11/23 06.01.2023	बजाज प्लसर 220 मोटरसाईकिल	KA51EZ-1799	DKYCHE45025	MD2A13EYHCE54902	आनन्द प्रभात पिता–जीवन कुमार, Mo.-18/19 FLOT No.-202, MN BTM 2ND STAGE, Dist.-Bangalore, State- Karnataka, Pin Code-560076

नोटः– विशेष जानकारी हेतु कार्यालय, सहायक आयुक्त मद्यनिषेध गया में कार्यालय कार्य दिवस को संपर्क किया जा सकता है। एवं मोबाईल नम्बर–8544424262–9431220844 पर संपर्क किया जा सकता है।

PR- 007517 (District) 2025-26

उक्त सूचना **state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

जिला दण्डाधिकारी,
–सह–
समाहर्त्ता, गया जी

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office : Bangalore

E-AUCTION Sale of Properties on 23.07.2025

Last date of EMD : 22.07.2025

ARM – I Branch, 2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.g. Road, Bangalore – 560001. Ph No. : 080 25310066. E-Mail – cb2366@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described imovable propeties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1,** Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **23.07.2025 at 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM,** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited, Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **22.07.2025 At 5.00 pm.**

Sl.No.	Name and address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets	Total Dues Possession Type	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection Date & Time
1.	**1. M/s Nature Home Care Products** No. #43, 1st Main Valagerhalli Kengeri, Near Chithrakoota School Bangalore-560056. **2.Sri. G K Ramachandra S/o Late Krishanppa** No. #43, 1st Main Valagerhalli Kengeri, Near Chithrakoota School Bangalore-560056. **Current address: Sri G K Ramachandra** No.#06, 1st Main, 9th Cross, MTS Layout, K S Town,Opp: Bethesda High,Bangalore-560050.	Property bearing site No. 8/4A, assessment No. 24/1 Valagerahalli Village Katha No. 49, measuring East to West 80 feet and North to south 60 feet, Totally measuring 1800 Sq.ft, Situated at Kengri, KengriHobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Presently comes under the limits of BBMP, Bengaluru. Bounded on **East:** Private Property, **West:** Private Property, **North:** Road And **South:** Private Property. **Coordinates of the property Latitude- 12.9331210 Longitude- 77.4950220**	**Rs. 3,11,91,315.66 as on 02.07.2025** plus further interest and cost thereon	**a) ₹ 185.00 b) ₹ 18.50 c) ₹ 1.00**	**08.07.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 08025310066, 6381952519, 8949226557 And 9483544116 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore
Date : 02.07.2025

Sd/- Authorized Officer,
Canara Bank

PROPERTYPLUS
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thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens
THE HINDU

COVER

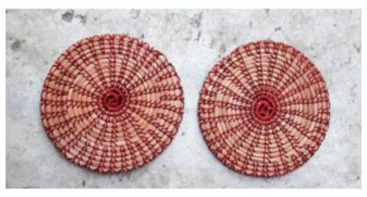
The Ombak advantage

Ditch the plastic and bring home eco-friendly furniture and sustainable decor, which now includes products made with pine needles sourced from Himachal Pradesh

K.S. Swati

For Shruthi Prakash, every little thing can become raw material for an eco-friendly product. The founder of Ombak – meaning "a large wave" in Bahasa, the language spoken in Indonesia – is on a mission to find sustainable alternatives for everyday needs, particularly furniture and home decor.

"We make a lot of products using natural alternatives and materials. Our primary materials are banana fibre and water hyacinth. Then, we also use seagrass," she explains. The finished products from the Chennai-based brand range from furniture such as chairs, sofas, and side tables to home decor items like baskets, planters, and wall decor.



(Top) Women in Himachal Pradesh working on pine needle products; (right) a few finished pieces; and (left) Shruthi Prakash.

However, the most interesting material Prakash is currently exploring is pine needles. "They are a very good alternative for a hotel or high-utility kind of business.

Among eco-friendly options, it's the most water-resistant. For example, banana fibre lasts about three years, whereas pine needle products can last a lifetime. They're also better suited for sun and water exposure, as the chances of colour degradation and other damage are lower," she says.

Ombak sources its materials from Himachal Pradesh, in partnership with a few NGOs. "In Himachal, it's an all-women team. In Kolkata, it's 85% women. I want to create more spaces where women can come together," adds Prakash.

After gaining exposure to sustainable and eco-friendly product-making in Indonesia, Prakash says she's inspired by the way materials are used there. "In India, if you take banana fibre, I would say 95% of what's available in the market is in rope form. You extract the fibre into thin straws and weave them. But in Indonesia, I learned how to process the fibre into sheet form. It's about knowing which part of the tree stem to extract to get that result. So while I wouldn't call it innovation, I'd say I was able to create newer products and designs simply through different material usage," she explains.

To bring a vacation vibe into the home, Prakash suggests focusing on natural elements. "We make amenities such as trays, toiletry trays, soap dishes, toothbrush stands, mirrors, lighting, and so on. Any plastic product can be replaced [with these]," she says. For home decor, prices start from ₹600. For furniture, designs are available from ₹12,000 and can go up to ₹40,000. Natural materials, Prakash adds, tend to work better in South India. And places such as Coimbatore, Chennai, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru have responded to her brand the best so far.

Ombak's architectural clients include Poetics, a design build studio in Bengaluru, which is known for its modern, eco-friendly architectural design, interior furnishing, and creating natural edible home gardens; and Interior 360, an architectural firm that specialises in interior design.

Currently, Prakash is partnered with Toran, a Chennai-based furniture showroom, and is looking for more such collaborations.

The products are available at ombak.life.

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THE HINDU
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DATE : MAY 31, 2025

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BG-BGE

Backwardness parameters of each caste to be given weightage

Nagamohan Das commission looking at internal reservation among the 101 Scheduled Castes is expected to recommend classifications taking into consideration social, economic, educational, and employment backwardness

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

The commission headed by retired judge H.N. Nagamohan Das, which is looking at internal reservation among the 101 Scheduled Castes (SCs), is expected to recommend classifications taking into consideration the social, economic, educational, and employment backwardness of each caste, and not see them just as broad political groupings as Dalit 'left' (Madiga and allied castes) and Dalit 'right' (Holeya and allied castes). This will be beside giving due weightage to population size and representation.

A similar method has been adopted in the classification of backward classes with castes grouped together as most backward, more backward, and backward categories based on the development indicators of the castes. The commission headed by Mr. Das has been asked to recommend an internal reservation to slice up the 17% reservation (enhanced from the earlier 15%) available for the SCs.

A sticker with QR code being pasted on a house as part of the comprehensive survey of the Scheduled Castes, at Rajarajeshwarinagar in Bengaluru. K. MURALI KUMAR

Earlier slicing formula

Incidentally, when the BJP government in 2022 announced internal reservation ahead of the 2023 Assembly elections, it had provided separate quota for Dalit 'left' and 'right' communities besides Korma, Koracha, and Lambani communities while providing 1% reservation for nomadic communities under the "others" category based on population.

"Castes that can compete among equal castes in terms of backwardness are expected to be clubbed together. For example, nomadic and semi-nomadic communities, most of which fall in the most backward category, cannot be brought with castes that have moved up the ladder. Backwardness will be the prime mover, though the population size of the communities will also play a major factor. The Supreme Court in its order last year also placed backwardness and adequate representation as the basis for providing internal reservation," sources in the commission said. "Telangana, which recently came up with an internal reservation, has also classified castes into three categories based on backwardness. Also, the Constitution does not recognise the Dalit 'left' and Dalit 'right' groupings."

Sources said that of the 101 SCs in Karnataka, 88 castes, including 45 nomadic castes, are classified as micro-communities whose population, according to the 2011 Census, do not even constitute 10% of the total population. "Their development indicators when compared with major SCs are lower."

The survey to identify the population and their status in terms of employment, education, ownership of land and houses, political representation, and other development indicators started on May 5. After the fourth extension, a new deadline of July 6 has been fixed to end the survey.

Sources said the dilemma over the classification of Adi Karnataka, Adi Andhra, and Adi Dravida is likely to continue despite the commission seeking the original caste names from those being surveyed. "Many have continued to be associated with these colonial-era nomenclatures, which is currently the reason for confusion. A large number of households continue to hold these certificates, also because they do not know their original caste names," said a source in the commission.

Report by end of July

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The H.N. Nagamohan Das commission is expected to submit its report and recommendation on internal reservation before the end of July. Sources said the commission is expected to get the final figures of population data by July 7.

"Analysis on various parameters is already under way, and by July third week the report is likely to be ready. The data on government employees to ascertain representation has also been received as well as from the State-run educational institutions," sources said.

Of the 1.16 crore projected population of SCs in the State, the survey has identified 1.07 crore. Though the survey has progressed well across the State, it is lagging in Bengaluru where just about 7.04 lakh population of the projected population of 13.62 lakh has been covered.

Revenue officials suspended

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following many complaints about lapses in the ongoing Scheduled Castes (SC) survey in the city, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike has suspended four revenue officials.

Three officials – revenue inspector Ramesh and tax collector Peddaraju, working in HBR sub-division, and tax collector C. Sentil Kumar of Kengeri sub-division – were suspended on Thursday for not contacting residents, but pasting stickers on their houses that the survey was completed. On Friday, the BBMP suspended revenue inspector Kavita, working in the Vasanthnagar sub-division, for erroneous survey in ward no. 62.

CM, Biocon chief continue to spar over COVID vaccines

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A fierce social media debate has erupted between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw on the safety of COVID-19 vaccines and their long-term implications.

Amid public anxiety over the reported spike in sudden cardiac deaths in Hassan district, the Chief Minister on July 1 raised the issue on social media, linking the Hassan deaths to, possibly, "hastily approved COVID-19 vaccines".

A file photo of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw.

'Hasty approval'

"It cannot be denied that the hasty approval and distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines to the public could also be a reason for these deaths, as several studies worldwide have recently indicated that COVID vaccines could be a cause for the increasing number of heart attacks," his post said.

He stated that the State government had set up an expert panel, led by Ravindranath K.S., Director of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, to investigate any possible link between these deaths and the vaccines.

Shaw hits back

Responding to the Chief Minister's post, Ms. Shaw shot back stating that the COVID-19 vaccines developed in India were approved under the Emergency Use Authorisation framework, following rigorous protocols aligned with global standards for safety and efficacy.

"To suggest that these vaccines were 'hastily' approved is factually incorrect and contributes to public misinformation. These vaccines have saved millions of lives and, like all vaccines, may cause side effects in a very small number of individuals. It is important to acknowledge the science and data-driven processes behind their development, rather than engage in retrospective blame," her post said.

Countering her response, Mr. Siddaramaiah continued the social media debate on Thursday asserting that it was his duty as the Chief Minister to respond to the genuine concerns of people who have lost loved ones unexpectedly.

"When parents lose their young children or families lose breadwinners without warning, seeking clarity is not misinformation; it is an act of governance rooted in empathy," his post stated.

Pointing out that several studies and even admissions by manufacturers have acknowledged rare but serious adverse events, he said, "Scientific caution is not anti-science. Many peer-reviewed studies (such as Nature, Circulation, Journal of the American College of Cardiology) have discussed myocarditis and cardiac arrest risk, particularly among young adults post-vaccination. Publicly funded stakeholders must acknowledge both the benefits and the potential risks without fear or favour."

CM defends stand

"When I said 'hastily', it reflects the unprecedented speed of emergency rollouts globally without complete long-term data, acknowledged even by WHO and global regulatory agencies, who termed it a 'calculated risk' during a pandemic. Haste is not a sin when saving lives, but acknowledging potential unintended consequences is wisdom. Seeking answers is not retrospective blame. It is the duty of a government that values every life," his post stated.

Replying to his post once more, Ms. Shaw said that while she agreed with the Chief Minister asking questions, her comments were related to whether COVID vaccines were approved in haste.

"My response was that due process was followed as prescribed by WHO for safety and efficacy for Emergency Use Authorisation. Losing lives in a sudden manner is always tragic and I am glad an investigation is being conducted in Hassan district," she said.

Union govt. response

Meanwhile, the Union Health Ministry had dismissed Mr. Siddaramaiah's statement, saying extensive studies by the ICMR and AIIMS have conclusively established no linkages between COVID vaccines and sudden deaths.

Studies by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) affirm that COVID-19 vaccines in India are safe and effective, with extremely rare instances of serious side effects, it said.

From Page One

Court restrains Kamal Haasan from making anti-Kannada remarks

The suit has been filed in connection with Mr. Haasan's controversial statement, made on April 24 during the launch of his movie "Thug Life" in Chennai, in which the actor had claimed that "Kannada is born out of Tamil".

"The reason that actor's statement caused immense pain and anguish to people is because it is manifestly and objectively untrue and it has been made with a sense of chauvinism, superiority and arrogance...." it has been contended in the suit.

Though the issue of opposition to screen movie *Thug Life* in Karnataka has been adjudicated before the apex court, the KSP has said that the "defamatory and fallacious statement made by the defendant remains and continuous to hurt the sentiments of the people (including that of KSP) and has caused immense disrepute, disgrace and humiliation."

Pointing out that the actor's controversial statement is "patently and admittedly" false, the KSP has said that "in fact, both the languages are sister languages..."

Refused to apologise

While pointing out that Mr. Haasan has refused to tender an apology for his "false statement", the KSP has sought a direction to him to tender an unconditional apology to the people of Karnataka and Kannadigas and withdraw his controversial statement on Kannada language.

HC stays BJP's defamation case filed against Shivakumar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday stayed the criminal proceedings against D.K. Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister and president of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC), in a defamation case filed by the Bharatiya Janata Party's State unit for issuing "defamatory" advertisements accusing the then BJP government of corruption in mainstream newspapers during the campaign for the Legislative Assembly elections in 2023. Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the interim order on the petition filed by the KPCC and Mr. Shivakumar, who questioned the legality of the defamation case, in which the Congress leader has been arraigned as accused number 2. The BJP had lodged the complaint before the magistrate court in June 2023.

Against Rahul

The court in January 2025 stayed the proceedings against Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, who has been arraigned as accused number 4 in the case.

Allegations

It was alleged in the complaint that "false, baseless, and reckless" allegations were made under the title 'Corruption rate card' in the advertisements issued on May 5, 2023, in all the mainstream newspapers across Karnataka, terming the then BJP government as "40% sarkar" by falsely alleging that the government had "looted over ₹1,50,000 crore from the people of the State during its 2019-2023 regime".

Another accused arrested in Praveen Nettaru murder case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sleuths from the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday arrested another accused in the 2022 BJP Yuva Morcha worker Praveen Nettaru murder case.

The accused, Abdul Rahaman, absconding for the past two years, was arrested at Kannur International Airport on his arrival from Qatar on Friday morning, the NIA said.

The NIA had in April this year filed a supplementary charge sheet in the case adding four accused, including Abdul Rahaman and two other absconders, taking the total number of people chargesheeted in the case to 28. The NIA had also declared rewards for information relating to six absconders. Abdul Rahaman was carrying a reward of ₹4 lakh for his arrest, the NIA said.

"NIA investigations had revealed that Abdul Rahaman had, on directions of the Popular Front of India leadership, voluntarily harboured the main assailants and others involved in the case. He had fled to Qatar after the attackers were arrested," the NIA claimed in a statement on Friday.

TAMILNADU MINERALS LIMITED
(An Undertaking of Government of Tamil Nadu)
No.31, Kamarajar Salai, Chepauk, Chennai - 600 005.
Phone No.044-28410003, 28511972

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER WITH FORWARD BIDDING

1	Description	Sale of Natural Graphite Flakes and D.E.Fines produced at Graphite Beneficiation Plant, Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu
2	Tender No. & Date Tender ID	407/VAP-2/2025, dated.04.07.2025 2025_TNMIN_578247_1
3	Bid submission end date	04.08.2025 upto 1600 hrs.
4	Technical bid opening date	05.08.2025 at 1600 hrs.
5	Tender form Fee EMD Amount	Rs.2000/- (Rupees Two Thousand only) (Non-refundable) As per annexure-3 of tender document

Note: For further details please visit Tamilnadu e-tendering portal http://tntenders.gov.in

GENERAL MANAGER (FINANCE)
(Addl.Incharge)

DIPR/3459/TENDER/2025

Journalism award to be presented

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Vijaykumar Chandragi, a journalist from *Udayavani*, has been selected for the Rohith Journalism Award 2025. It will be presented by Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti at a programme to be held at Seshadripuram College here on Saturday.

Wooday P. Krishna, secretary of the Seshadripuram Educational Trust, and K.V. Nagaraj, president of the IMSR, will participate as chief guests.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-28/494/2025-26 Date: 04.07.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

EPC Tender under two cover bid system is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the work mentioned below:

Name of the Work : Design & Construction of Working Women's Hostel Building including maintenance of building for 1 Year under EPC contract at Residential Layout, Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Area, 3rd Phase, Tumakuru Taluk & District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **06.08.2025** upto **4.30 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1637/Zen/2025-26

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Those who live uprightly enter a place of peace; they rest on their beds. - Isaiah 57:2

SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

HONESTY HARD WORK HUMILITY

Date: 05.07.2009

KALVITHANTHAI Thiru. **OORVASI D. SELVARAJ** M.A., Ex-M.L.A.

FOUNDER : OORVASI SOAP

Pleasant Days The Finest Family Resort Hotel | QueensLand The Great Amusement Paradise | KINGS ENGINEERING COLLEGE

Beloved wife, Children and Brothers

Dr. **NALINI SELVARAJ** M.Com., M.Phil., Ph.D.,
Mr. **OORVASI S. AMIRTHARAJ** B.Tech, MBA (UK) - M.L.A., Srivaikundam,
Mrs. **Merliyn Jemima Amirtharaj** B.E., MBA.,
Mr.**S. Anandaraj** B.Tech., MBA., Mrs. **Mercy Angel Anandaraj** B.Com., MBA.,
Mrs. **S. Rajapriya Joel Raja** M.A., Mr. **S. Joel Raja** MBA.,
Mr. **D. Victor** Mr. **D. Gnanaraj.**

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

U. LOGABABU
Retd. Sr. Supervisor (Comp. NEWS)
42 Yrs Service, THE HINDU

Transcendent tribute to APPA, his unwavering support, whose silent sacrifices, selfless parenthood, and moral rectitude shaped our essence. His enduring legacy guides our every step with reverence, pride, gratitude.

Dr.L.Jambulingam, L.Devika, J.Prema, R.Lakshmanan Tilak Kumar
Grandchildren: R.Avinash, L.Karthika, J.Nithyalakshmi, L.Balavignesh, Great Grandchild: A. Aarav Sai, Relatives and Friends

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

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Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
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DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

Don't take precipitative action against MLC till July 8: HC to police

Ravikumar is accused of making derogatory remarks against Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday directed the police not to take any precipitative action till July 8 against BJP MLC N. Ravikumar based on a complaint by a woman alleging that he had made derogatory remarks against Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh.

Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the interim order on a petition filed by Mr. Ravikumar, who has questioned the registration of a first information report based on a complaint lodged by Nagarathna, a city-based social worker.

However, the court said that police could investigate the case while making it clear that the petitioner would have to cooperate in the probe.

The complaint was lodged based on the news telecast on TV channels, alleging that Mr. Ravikumar had made derogatory remarks during a BJP demonstration near Vidhana Soudha recently.

However, Mr. Ravikumar has already issued a statement denying making any such statement against the Chief Secretary.

HC seeks report from Kerala govt. on use of Central funds

The directive comes after *amicus curiae* suggests that a report on Wayanad be sought from the State; HC gives two more weeks to Centre to decide on waiver of loans of people hit by landslides

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court of Justice A.K. Jayasankaran Nambiar and Justice P.M. Manoj has sought a report from the State government on the utilisation of ₹120 crore the Centre had allotted for rehabilitation of people affected by the landslides in Wayanad in 2024.

The directive came after *amicus curiae* Ranjith Thampan suggested that a report be called from the government regarding the manner of utilisation of the funds, when the court took up a *suo motu* case relating to the prevention and management of natural disasters in Kerala. The Advocate General was asked to file a report by July 25.

The court also gave two more weeks to the Centre to decide on waiver of loans of the landslides-affected people. Union government's counsel had requested two weeks to inform the court about the waiver. The court was also informed that the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has taken steps to frame a comprehensive disaster management plan (DMP) for its implementing agencies, including the National Highways Authority of India, to mitigate all kinds of natural disasters.

Rebuilding hope: Tea shrubs being uprooted to prepare ground for construction of a township for the landslide survivors. FILE PHOTO

Townships to be completed by December, says Minister

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

Kerala's Minister for Revenue and Housing K.Rajan said that the proposed township for the survivors of Wayanad landslides, which is being built at Elstone Estate in Kalpetta, will be completed by the end of the year. He said that the government would not abandon the people of Padavettikkunnu, who had not been included on the list of beneficiaries.

BYV questions silence of IAS Officers' Association in earlier cases involving CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

BJP Karnataka unit president B.Y. Vijayendra has wondered why the IAS Officers' Association, which has now petitioned Chief Minister Siddaramaiah against BJP MLC N. Ravikumar for allegedly derogatory comments against the Chief Secretary, did not show similar interest when Chief Minister Siddaramaiah himself had insulted an IAS officer earlier.

Speaking to mediapersons here, he wondered why the association remained silent when the Chief Minister insulted officers.

"Where was the IAS Officers' Association when the Chief Minister behaved in a manner that insulted other civil servants?" he asked.

"Wasn't it the same Chief Minister Siddaramaiah who, during a public meeting in Belagavi, attempted to slap a police officer?" he asked.

Tiger deaths at M.M. Hills: DCF among 3 suspended

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Environment Minister Eshwar B. Khandre has recommended the suspension of three officers for dereliction of duty and negligence in the case of the unnatural death of five tigers – a mother and her cubs – in the M.M. Hills Wildlife Sanctuary in Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka on June 26.

The three officers are Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) Chakrapani Y., Assistant Conservator of Forests Gajanana Hegde of M.M. Hills Wildlife Division, and Range Forest Officer-cum-Surveyor Madesh.

On June 30, the three officers were sent on compulsory leave until further notice.

The Minister, who received and reviewed the preliminary report of the high-level inquiry committee headed by Additional Chief Principal Conservator of Forests Kumar Pushkar, made this recommendation to suspend the trio to the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms.

A Forest Department order, which had asked the three officers to go on leave, had said that nonpayment of salary and allowances to the frontline outsourced staff had hampered the patrolling in the area where the death of the five tigers occurred.

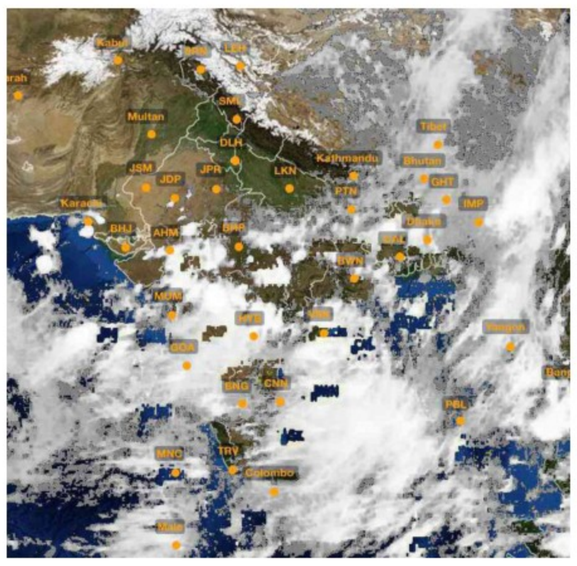
'Dereliction of duty'

According to a statement from Mr. Khadre, though money was released by April-end to pay the salary and allowances to the frontline outsourced staff, not paying them till June is a dereliction of duty on the part of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, which has caused setbacks in the patrol work.

The outsourced staff had protested on June 23 over not being paid since March. "It is apparent that the frontline staff was evading duty due to nonpayment of salary on time," Mr. Khadre said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	11	33.0	26.2	Kozhikode	7	30.0	23.2
Ahmedabad	9	31.9	25.7	Kurnool	0.7	33.4	25.0
Aizawl	1	31.1	21.8	Lucknow	4	33.0	27.0
Allahabad	2	36.0	27.0	Madurai	—	40.0	25.1
Bengaluru	—	28.7	20.4	Mangaluru	73	29.3	22.6
Bhopal	12	26.8	24.2	Mumbai	25	30.9	25.6
Bhubaneswar	7.1	29.6	25.0	Mysuru	—	27.0	19.8
Chandigarh	—	34.0	27.8	New Delhi	—	36.2	28.4
Chennai	—	37.1	28.4	Patna	2	35.5	27.8
Coimbatore	—	30.6	21.4	Port Blair	22	29.5	27.0
Dehradun	7	31.4	24.8	Puducherry	—	35.6	26.0
Gangtok	55	22.0	18.5	Pune	1	29.8	24.2
Goa	68	30.0	24.1	Raipur	2	29.3	24.8
Guwahati	—	33.7	27.0	Ranchi	0.4	27.6	23.2
Hubballi	—	28.0	22.0	Shillong	2	25.8	18.5
Hyderabad	—	31.4	23.1	Shimla	36	20.7	17.1
Imphal	—	30.5	25.6	Srinagar	—	35.3	22.9
Jaipur	3	35.4	27.0	Thiruvananthapuram	0.1	33.1	23.2
Kochi	7	30.0	23.4	Tiruchi	—	35.7	27.4
Kohima	14.5	20.3	20.1	Vijayawada	—	36.8	26.0
Kolkata	3	31.0	27.6	Visakhapatnam	0.8	33.2	26.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.23	.33	.59	43	54	
Bengaluru	.10	.5	.39	35	111	
Chennai	.15	.27	.79	17	50	
Delhi	.12	.37	104	71	118	
Hyderabad	.13	.11	.41	51	74	
Kolkata	.10	.48	.30	52	59	
Lucknow	.69	.12	.14	80	58	
Mumbai	.37	.16	.42	21	62	
Pune	..	.52	.66	29	91	
Visakhapatnam	.12	.73	.25	50	89	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Belapur, Maharashtra recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 136 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 8

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
KOPPAL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (R), KOPPAL
ನೊಂದಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:KOL-S243–2012–13 ದಿನಾಂಕ:15–03–2013
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ)
Website : www.kimskoppal.com email :directorkimskoppal@gmail.com
Office : 08539 225522 Med. Suptd : 08539-225523

No: KIMS/Koppal/Re-Tender/2025-26/253 Date: 05/07/2025

RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender is invited for providing the following services for KIMS, Koppal under two cover Bid system as per KTPP Act 1999 rule 2000 KPPP portal of Government of Karnataka.

Sl. No	Tender Notification No and Date	Particulars	Approx Cost (in Lakhs)	EMD Rs.
1	KIMS/Koppal/Re-Tender/Ab-Ark/ 2025-26 Date:05/07/2025	Implementation and avail consultation services of Ab-Ark scheme at district teaching hospital KIMS Koppal for One Year.	54.00	135000/-
2	KIMS/Koppal/ Re-Tender/Radiology/ 2025-26 Date:05/07/2025	Supply of X-Ray Equipments to Radiology Department of KIMS Koppal	29.50	73750/-
3	KIMS/Koppal/Re-Tender/Canteen/ 2025-26 Date: 05/07/2025	Providing Canteen services to KIMS Koppal for One Year.	1.80	4500/-

(1) Tender documents may download from the **05/07/2025 @11.30AM (2)** Tender must be submitted online on before 21/07/2025 @5.30PM **(3)** Technical Bids will be opened on **23/07/2025 @11.30AM (4)** Price Bid will be opened on **28/07/2025 @11.30 AM**
Further information may be obtained from the above office during office hours & also from Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and this office web-site www.kimskoppal.kar.nic.in

Sd/- Director, KIMS, Koppal

DIPR/Koppal/202/DeshpandePublicity/2025-26

BANGALORE SMART INFRASTRUCTURE LTD
Office of the Superintending Engineer,
Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-Smile)
N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.

No: B-SMILE/SE/Tend/02/2025-26 Date:04.07.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK KPP Portal only) (Two Cover System)

The Superintending Engineer, Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) invites Bids from eleigible contractors registered in B-SMILE/CPWD/KPWD/Railways / MES / Any State Government organization for the construction works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	"Renovation and Providing Interiors for establishment of "Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Limited" (B-SMILE)", Bengaluru at No.30/1, 3rd Floor, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Bengaluru-560051. Amount Put to Tender: **Rs. 127.52 lakhs**. EMD : **Rs.1.92 Lakhs.** Period of Completion : **2 Months.**

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP portal from **07.07.2025 at 5:30 pm onwards**. **2)** Pre-bid Meeting : **15.07.2025 at 4.00 p.m. 3)** Last date for submission of tenders: **24.07.2025 upto 4.00 p.m. 4)** Opening of Technical Bids: **25.07.2025 at 4.30 p.m.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of the undersigned.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer (B-Smile)

TAMILNADU INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (TIDCO)
CIN-U65993TN1965SGC005327

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

NOTICE NO. TIDCO/EoI-AVM-01/2025 **Date:05.07.2025**

Tamilnadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited (TIDCO), intends to develop a State-of-the-Art Anti-Venom Production Facility in Tamil Nadu under Joint Venture (JV) mode.

TIDCO invites proposals from the interested firms, who is willing to establish the design, development, operation and maintenance of a State-of-the-Art Anti-Venom Production Facility under JV mode. The last date for submission of the proposal is on or before 25.07.2025.

Interested firms can download the EoI document from **https://tidco.com** website.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Tamilnadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd
19-A, Rukmani Lakshmipathi Road, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.
E-mail: cmd@tidco.com , Website: https://tidco.com

DIPR/3436/Tender/2025

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಪಾಅ/ಪಂರಾಇಂ/ವಿಯಾ/ಕೆಕೆಆರ್‌ಡಿಬಿ/ಟೆ.ಪ್ರ/ತಾಸ–1/2025–26/544 ದಿನಾಂಕ:03.07.2025

ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

1) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ: ಸುರಪುರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ದೇವತ್ಕಲ್ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಿ.ಟಿ. ರಸ್ತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಿ.ಡಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ. (ಕಿ.ಮೀ 2.2 ದಿಂದ 3.35) (Indent No. RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT15148) **2) ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ:** 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಕೆ.ಕೆ.ಆರ್.ಡಿ.ಬಿ. ಯೋಜನೆ **3) ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ:** ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮತ್ತು ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ. 125.00 ಲಕ್ಷ **4) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ದರ್ಜೆ:** 3ನೇ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು ದರ್ಜೆ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು **5) ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:** 05.07.2025 ರಿಂದ 14.07.2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ **6) ಟೆಂಡರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ:**ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ (ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಹಿಂದಿರುಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲಾ) **7) ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ:** 14.07.2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ **8) ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ತಾಂತ್ರೀಕ:** 16.07.2025 ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಗೆ 11:00 ನಂತರ **9) ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ:** 21.07.2025 ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಗೆ 11:00 ನಂತರ **10) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ವಿಳಾಸ (ಕಛೇರಿ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ):** ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ. **11) ಅಂತರಜಾಲ ತಾಣದ ವಿಳಾಸ:** https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

ಸೂಚನೆ: ಟೆಂಡರರಿಗೆಸಂಬಂದಿಸಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಛೇರಿ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು (ರಜಾದಿನಗಳು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ).

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಯಾದಗಿರಿ/135/ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/2025–26 **ಯಾದಗಿರ.**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
OFFICE OF THE JOINT DIRECTOR (ANIMAL HUSBANDRY),
N. R. SQUARE, BANGALORE-560002

No: JD(AH)/PR- 158/2025-26 Dated: 04-07-2025

Tender Notification

Joint Director, Animal Husbandry, BBMP Invites Proposals under Karnataka public Procurement portal (two cover system) for providing FEEDING SERVICE to COMMUNITY DOGS in all 8 Zones of BBMP

RFP Reference No	BBMP/2025-26/SE1614
Date of Commencement of Download of RFP Document from Karnataka Public Procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**	From 04/07/2025
Last Date and Time for uploading Online Queries in Karnataka Public Procurement portal	**up to 08/07/2025 5:00 PM**
Date, Time & Venue of Pre-bid Meeting	**08/07/2025 at 11.00AM** at the following venue: Office of the Special Commissioner Health, 3rd floor, Annex-3, N.R. Square, Bangalore-02
Last Date and Time for uploading of RFP in Karnataka Public Procurement portal	**up to 18/07/2025 5:00 PM**
Date and Time of Online Opening of RFP Application	**19/07/2025 5:10PM**
Place of Opening of RFP	Online at Karnataka public Procurement portal
Address for Communication	Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), N.R. Square, Bangalore-02 Phone : 9480685653 Email:jointdirectorahbbmp02@gmail.com

Sd/- Joint Director (Animal Husbandry),BBMP.

ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର
(ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ / ପୋଷ୍ଟ- ଆମ୍ବପୁଆ, ଆୟକର ଭବନ ନିକଟରେ, , ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର - ୭୬୦୦୧୧, ଗଞ୍ଜାମ, ଓଡିଶା

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
(At/Po :- Ambapua, Near Income Tax Office, Berhampur-760011. Ganjam, Odisha)
(E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com; Tel No.:-0680-2404287)

E-Mail / E-despatch

NOTICE

FOR PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH "e"-Procurement
Bid identification No. Online Tender/10-2025-26/PMGSY/BPR

The Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Berhampur on behalf of Odisha State Rural Road Agency invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads & Bridges under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (Balance Work) in the districts of **Ganjam for 02 (Two)** number of packages with estimated cost totalling to **Rs 7.58 Cr (Approximate)** including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with **State PWD / CPWD / MES / Railways**. The registered bidder of outside Odisha, can also participate in this process, but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with the appropriate authority of the State Govt. preferably within a month of the deadline for bid submission, but prior to signing of the contract

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement. Dtd. **07.07.2025**

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in **www.pmgsytenders.gov.in**. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (a) (ii) of ITB with **Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Berhampur // Superintending Engineer / Executive Engineer of the Concerned divisions** on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 21.07.2025 upto 5.30 P.M

For further details and corrigendum (if any) please log on to **www.pmgsytenders.gov.in**.

Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur

O- 376 : OIPR-25071/11/0102/2526

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BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Traffic Commercial Department, 2nd Floor, Shanthinagar TTMC, K.H.Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560 027.

No.: BMTC/CO/TR/COM/1797/1505/2025-26 Date: 03.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION No. 15/2025-26
(e-Procurement Platform)

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation invites bids from the interested Persons/Agency/Company on monthly license fee basis for **General Stalls (Built and Open Space), Refreshment Room and Prestige Apartment Flats** through e-procurement platform.

Last date & time for submission of bids	**19.07.2025 up to 17:00 hrs.**
Date of opening Financial bids	**21.07.2025 at 11.30 hrs.**

For further details on license fees, EMD, Area & other conditions log on to: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Contact No: 09240214000, 09240214001, 22371090, 22340060, 22340948 or 7760997519 & 7760991222, E-mail:**ctmc@mybmtc.com.**

Sd/- Chief Traffic Manager (Com) (Tender inviting Authority)

Settled semantics

Nothing of worth will be gained by removing two words from the Preamble

The call for the removal of the words "secular" and "socialist" from the Preamble to the Constitution of India is no longer a fringe fantasy. With someone as senior and influential as the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale making a public statement in support of the idea, it has now acquired a new urgency and prominence in national politics. The words "secular" and "socialist" were introduced through the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution, during the Emergency under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1976. And the Janata Party government, which included RSS-affiliated leaders, that replaced Indira Gandhi and reversed a lot of the changes made in the Constitution during the Emergency let these words stay. These concepts were so central to the Constitution of the new Republic that its original authors did not think it was even necessary to use these words in the Preamble. When a conflict over India's national identity began to emerge during the 1970s, Indira Gandhi thought it would be appropriate and also politically rewarding to make these amendments. The Hindutva camp never really opposed these concepts historically. Gandhian Socialism was a part of the core tenets of the Jan Sangh, the earlier avatar of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Hindutva proponents accused their rivals of following 'pseudo secularism,' and by implication, claimed to be genuine secularists.

The words "secular" and "socialist" have attained meanings specific to the Indian context over the years. Secularism is not a rejection of Indian civilisational heritage or any religion, but a commitment to equal treatment of all faiths by the state. Indira Gandhi had been viewed as someone pandering to Hindu sentiments. Socialism is not about hostility to private property or enterprise, but a pragmatic appreciation of the fact that the state must take proactive measures to tackle poverty and expand opportunities for the deprived sections of society. The words 'secularism' and 'socialism' reflect a broad consensus in Indian politics that has held for decades. There is nothing to be achieved by raking up a meaningless debate on these words. Perhaps the debate itself is the objective: to push a divisive agenda without providing any ideological, legal or practical reasoning for this demand. India's challenge is not about these two words, but its continuing struggle to tackle discrimination, poverty and underdevelopment, which are often influenced by the caste and religious origins of its citizens. The Sangh Parivar, and the BJP, could serve the country better by focusing on these challenges rather than wasting energy on divisive debates on settled semantics.

Cease the cess

Low GST collections speak to the need for structural reforms

The eighth anniversary of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India, on July 1, coincided with the poorest tax collections the indirect tax system has seen in some time, highlighting the need for structural changes in the system. The latest GST collections stood at ₹1.85 lakh crore in June 2025, the lowest in four months. This amount was just 6.2% higher than the collections in June 2024, the slowest growth rate in four years. Looking past the gross collections, the data show that once refunds are accounted for, the growth in the government's actual collections was just 3.3%. Further, the revenue from domestic transactions, excluding imports, was an anaemic 4.6% higher than in June last year – barely faster than the average rate of inflation since then. Being a consumption tax, a dip in GST collections reflects a dip in economic activity. But it also reflects inefficiencies in the system, which must now suitably be addressed eight years on. A common demand is for fuel to be included in GST. There is, however, strong resistance to this from State governments, since fuel and alcohol are the few sources of revenue States have with them that are independent of the Centre. However, this cannot be reason enough to perpetually keep these items excluded. It is 'one nation, one tax' after all, and it is high time that the goal was achieved in full. As for the revenue hit to States, the Centre must accede to their request for a higher share in central taxes. The Centre must also stop increasingly relying on non-shareable cesses for its revenue. For their part, States must resist the temptation to use this higher amount on election-oriented untargeted freebies. Trust goes two ways.

The other popular reform is a reduction in the number of GST rates. This, too, is overdue, and the GST Council's fitment and rate-setting committees are examining the issue. Connected to this is the question of what is to be done with the GST Compensation Cess, which is levied over and above the 28% slab. It was originally intended to compensate States for any losses arising out of GST implementation for a period of five years. It was then extended until March 2026 to repay the loan taken by the Centre to pay this compensation since the COVID-19 pandemic had disrupted revenues. The Centre should avoid the temptation to subsume this cess into the broader GST rates. Instead, with its job done, the cess must be removed. Taxation is not just a covenant between the Centre and the States. It is also one with the people. Removing a cess that is no longer needed will not only garner public praise but could also spur some sorely needed urban consumption.

Two democracies and the echoes of tyranny

Sanjay Hegde

is a Senior Advocate designated by the Supreme Court of India

Yesterday, on July 4, the United States observed its Independence Day. A quarter of a millennium ago, the American people declared their resolve to live not under kings but under laws. They fought to build a government accountable to the people, not one that claimed to rule in their name. In their Declaration of Independence, the Founders wrote that "when a long train of abuses and usurpations" reveals a design to reduce the people "under absolute Despotism," it is not only their right but also their duty to resist. In that tradition, a conservative Federal judge, Judge J. Michael Luttig marks the occasion with a solemn warning: the ideals of 1776 are not self-perpetuating. Judge Luttig's modern "27 truths" remind Americans that self-government is not guaranteed by parchment or precedent. It must be defended daily, especially against those who seek to crown themselves in defiance of the Constitution. Tyranny, once foreign, now threatens from within.

India's democratic backsliding

Luttig's warning is not hyperbole. It is a reflection of global experience, including India's democratic backsliding 50 years ago. India's Emergency under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, on June 25, 1975, suspended civil liberties, censored the press, imprisoned over 1,00,000 citizens, and reduced Parliament and the courts to shadows of themselves. It did not come through violence or revolution. It came through law. Indira Gandhi claimed she was saving democracy. In fact, she was suffocating it.

In his book, *Emergency Chronicles: Indira Gandhi and Democracy's Turning Point*, historian Gyan Prakash exposed how democratic institutions can die not with a bang, but with a nod. There was no coup. No tanks.

The Army Chief, General T.N. Raina, a fellow Kashmiri, was asked for his support, but he refused to get into the politics of the day – rightly so. Indira Gandhi did not openly defy the Constitution but exploited its weaknesses. After a court found her guilty of electoral fraud and barred her from office, she declared an "internal disturbance" and triggered Article 352 of the Indian Constitution. Overnight, dissent became treason. Rights became privileges. And power became personal.

The real tragedy was not just what Indira Gandhi did. It was how effortlessly she did it. Judges, Ministers, civil servants, even journalists – people entrusted with guarding democracy – chose loyalty over law. The Supreme Court ruled that during the Emergency, even the right to life could be suspended. Only one judge, Justice H.R. Khanna, dissented. He was never appointed Chief Justice, punishment for his integrity.

H.V. Kamath saw it coming. The former civil servant-turned-freedom fighter and member of India's Constituent Assembly, he had almost pleaded that the Emergency's provisions being embedded in the Constitution were too dangerous. In 1949, he compared India's draft provisions to Germany's Weimar Constitution, which Hitler had exploited to build his dictatorship. H.V. Kamath said, "First, the grand affirmation... and surmounting that edifice is the arch of the great negation." He begged for checks and balances. He begged for the Constitution to protect future generations, but was ignored.

When Indira Gandhi declared internal Emergency 26 years later, the mechanism H.V. Kamath had feared came to life. Dissenters were detained under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA), a preventive detention law. Police abducted students in broad daylight. Sanjay Gandhi, who was unelected and unaccountable, operated a parallel state, pushing brutal sterilisation campaigns and slum demolitions. Entire neighbourhoods in Delhi were razed. Protesters were shot. Families were displaced. Inmates were tortured. All of it was "legal". None of it was democratic.

When the Emergency ended in 1977, India voted Indira Gandhi out in a landslide. The Janata government passed the 44th Amendment to prevent such abuses from recurring. But the deeper damage to political culture, to institutions, to the idea that constitutionalism alone can protect democracy remains. India moved on, but never fully reckoned with how close it came to authoritarian collapse.

Similar dynamics in the U.S.

Which brings us back to the United States. The parallels are unmistakable. U.S. President Donald Trump has not declared an Emergency. He does not need to. He has a majority in both Houses of Congress and a 6-3 conservative majority in the Supreme Court, which legalises all his actions. He can weaponise the Justice Department to prosecute his opponents, threaten to strip immigrants of their citizenship and residency status, and even threaten to "terminate" parts of the Constitution. He seeks not to hold power, but to own it. As Judge Luttig notes, this is not reform. It is monarchy by another name.

And just like in India, the institutions meant to stop him have mostly failed. Congress hesitated. Republicans enabled. Courts delayed. Media rationalised. Many shrugged, waited, and hoped someone else would act. In this way, guardrails do not just erode under outside pressure. They rot from within.

> The same dynamics that enabled the Emergency in India now threaten the U.S.; the lesson is that tyranny thrives when institutions become hollow

Americans must confront a hard truth: the same dynamics that enabled the Emergency in India now threaten the American republic. As H.V. Kamath warned, Constitutions do not protect liberty on their own. They must be guarded by people with the courage to say no. If Congress (Parliament) refuses to assert its role; if courts bend under partisan pressure; if the press becomes passive; if law enforcement serves power instead of the public – then the law ceases to be king. And we begin the slow coronation of another.

There is a historical irony here too deep to ignore. Years after Indira Gandhi imprisoned her opponents and suffocated the Constitution, her grandson, Rahul Gandhi, now brandishes that very Constitution as a talisman against rising authoritarianism in India. At protest rallies, he holds up Ambedkar's book, invoking the very document Indira Gandhi once bent to her will. Where once the Constitution was used to silence dissent, it is now Rahul Gandhi's weapon to preserve it.

A call to be vigilant

There is a lesson here that transcends families and nations: every generation must reclaim democracy for itself. The battles our forebears fought – against monarchy, against colonialism, against Emergency – are not relics. They are warnings. They are calls to vigilance. The Constitution is not an heirloom. It is a mandate. It must be re-defended, reinterpreted, and reaffirmed by each generation.

It is easy to celebrate Independence Day with fireworks and fanfare. But the revolution was not a party. It was an act of resistance against arbitrary rule. Thomas Paine wrote, "Let the law be king". Not presidents. Not parties. Not mobs. But the law. And only when the people demand it. We must resist the normalisation of revenge politics, the erosion of checks and balances, and the authoritarian cult of personality. Democracy is not just a system of rules. It is a culture of restraint. Of limits. Of humility before power. The Emergency in India failed because the people ultimately remembered what had been stolen from them. History never repeats exactly as it happened. But it does echo. The Emergency's lesson is not that tyranny is foreign. It is that tyranny is familiar, legal and welcomed when institutions go hollow.

Today, both India and America are democracies by form. But their futures depend on substance. On how citizens, courts, journalists, legislators and civil servants act when faced with leaders who believe they are above the law. The difference between a republic and a monarchy is not just procedure. It is accountability. When a king breaks the law, it becomes policy. When a President or Prime Minister does, it becomes a test.

India failed that test in 1975. We cannot afford to fail it again. We must defend the law as if it were our crown. Because if we do not, someone else will wear it. And they will not take it off.

A deliberate strategy to usher in a communal order

D. Raja

is General Secretary, Communist Party of India

On the eve of the 75th anniversary of the Indian Constitution, the Supreme Court of India reaffirmed the foundational character of the Indian Republic by upholding the inclusion of the words "secular" and "socialist" in the Constitution's Preamble. These words, introduced through the Constitution (42nd Amendment) Act, 1976, by the Indira Gandhi-led government during the Emergency, have been the target of repeated political and legal attacks by right-wing forces. Dismissing a batch of petitions challenging these additions, a Bench of the Supreme Court recently upheld the addition of these words, arguing that the mere absence of these terms in the original Preamble adopted on November 26, 1949, cannot invalidate their inclusion.

This legal reaffirmation was a powerful signal from the judiciary. But the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the ideological backbone of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), chose to launch a fresh offensive on the very idea of India as enshrined in the Constitution. RSS General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale made a brazen demand: the removal of "secular" and "socialist" from the Preamble, which, according to him, were alien to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's constitutional vision.

The Vice-President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar, went a step further, terming the insertion of these words as "sacrilege to the spirit of Sanatan". It is no coincidence that these statements are being made from some of the highest offices of the land. This is not an intellectual debate. This is a deliberate political strategy to delegitimise the modern, plural, democratic republic of India and to usher in a communal and hierarchical order.

An agenda, from fringe to mainstream

When the Constitution was being framed, the Constituent Assembly, emphatically and unanimously, supported the idea of a secular state. Not a single member argued for a theocratic state. The idea of India was built on the foundations of unity in diversity – a rejection of colonial divide-and-rule, of communal politics, and of caste and religious supremacy. Today, the RSS-BJP establishment is working relentlessly to dismantle that consensus and impose the idea of a Hindu Rashtra. This agenda has moved from fringe rhetoric to the political mainstream. On the day of the consecration of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a provocative statement equating 'Ram with Rashtra and Dev with Desh'. This kind of fusion of religion and state is exactly what the framers of the Constitution warned against. It is also directly in contradiction to the Supreme Court's ruling that secularism is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution – something that cannot be amended or erased, even by Parliament.

> The attack by right-wing forces on the Constitution must be resisted through public awareness, legal challenge, political mobilisation, and democratic struggle

Leaders and their warnings

The warnings of our national leaders resonate even more forcefully today. In 1931, Mahatma Gandhi, in his resolution on Fundamental Rights, insisted that the state must remain neutral in religious matters. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar too reflected this in the line, "The State shall not recognise any religion as State religion." What is particularly instructive,and ironic, is that the Hindu Mahasabha, which boycotted the freedom movement and opposed secular nationalism, included a similar provision in its 1944 Hindustan Free State Act.

The Constituent Assembly Debates further highlight the intent of India's founding generation. On August 27, 1947, Govind Ballabh Pant posed a direct question: "Do you want a real national secular State or a theocratic State?" He warned that if India became a theocracy, it could only be a Hindu state, raising questions about the status and security of those who would be excluded from such a polity. Jaspat Roy Kapoor, on November 21, 1949, noted that Gandhi had made it clear: religion should be a personal matter. On November 22, 1949, Begum Aizaz Rasul called secularism "the most outstanding feature" of the Constitution and expressed hope that it would remain "guarded and unsullied". On October 14, 1949, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel reassured the nation that the Constitution of free India would not be "disfigured by any provision on a communal basis." And on November 23, T.J.M. Wilson warned that the clouds threatening India's secular character were already forming. These warnings were not alarmist but were deeply perceptive, and speak with urgency to our times.

The present RSS-led campaign is also aimed at discrediting and eliminating the socialist orientation of the Constitution. Dr. Ambedkar, in the Constituent Assembly, clearly noted that the Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in Part IV of the Constitution were rooted in socialist ideals.

The Supreme Court's recent decision, rightly interpreted the term "socialist" in the Preamble as synonymous with a welfare state. This vision resonates with B.R. Ambedkar's own emphasis on the social and economic transformation of India – an end to caste exploitation, landlessness, poverty, and discrimination. Socialism means creating conditions for equality and justice – not the importation of any foreign ideology, but the realisation of the promises of the freedom struggle. In this regard, B.R. Ambedkar issued perhaps the most unambiguous warning ever – in *Pakistan or the Partition of India*, he wrote: "If Hindu Raj does become a fact, it will, no doubt, be the greatest calamity for this country... Hindu Raj must be prevented at any cost."

That cost is now upon us. The RSS's demand to remove the terms "secular" and "socialist" from the Constitution is part of a long-term project to dismantle the very edifice of the modern Indian Republic and to institutionalise a new order built on religious supremacy, caste hierarchy, market fundamentalism, and political authoritarianism.

The need for resistance

This must be resisted – through public awareness, legal challenge, political mobilisation, and mass democratic struggle. The Constitution is not just a legal document. It is a political, social, and moral covenant forged in the crucible of our freedom struggle. It embodies the dreams of countless martyrs, revolutionaries, and constitutionalists who envisioned an India that belonged to all its people. To defend secularism and socialism today is to defend democracy itself. It is to defend the right of every citizen – regardless of faith, caste, class, or gender – to live with dignity, equality, and freedom. The Republic must be protected, nourished, and, if necessary, defended against those who seek to destroy it from within. Let us rise to that responsibility, with courage, with clarity, and with collective resolve.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

About ethics too

The credibility of a reporter rests on a delicate dance between earning access to powerful sources and preserving the trust behind the byline (Opinion page – 'Notebook', July 4). True credibility lies in reporting facts without fear or favour, even if it means losing privileged "access". The reporter must resist pressures to trade integrity for influence, knowing that credibility, once lost, is hard to regain. Ethical clarity becomes the most valuable compass.

Narayanan Kizhumundayur,
Thrissur, Kerala

Examination dates

The Tamil Nadu government is to conduct the TNPSC Group 4 Examination on July 12, 2025. This is also the day when Indian Overseas Bank, through the IBPS, is to conduct its written examination for the post of local bank officers. Thousands of aspirants have applied for both the examinations. It would be ideal if the date of the bank examination is changed.

S.Panneerselvam,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Pilgrims' PROGRESS

With India-China ties improving, the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra has resumed after a nearly six-year hiatus. Of about 5,000 applicants, the Ministry of External Affairs chose 750 pilgrims this year. While both pilgrims and workers in Tibet are happy about the resumption of the yatra, they are concerned about rising temperatures. **Suhasini Haidar** and **Rahul Karmakar** report on what it takes to make the arduous trek to a site considered sacred by followers of many religions

Damini Pandya, one of the yatris, at the Manasarovar Lake in Tibet. SUHASINI HAIDAR

Damini Pandya, 68, had taken a vow of silence for eight days before she reached the clear, ice blue waters of the Manasarovar Lake in Tibet. There, the retired government officer from Ahmedabad in Gujarat gazed at the majestic snow-capped Kailash mountain in the distance. It had taken her 17 days to get there, walking for three days with low oxygen at an average altitude of about 15,000 feet above sea level. Breaking into a wide smile, she splashed cold water over her head – a ritual that Hindu pilgrims believe purifies the body and soul.

Eight days after she began her *maun vrat* (vow of silence), Pandya crossed into India at the Nathu La Pass in Sikkim. Breaking her vow, she said that the silence had helped her absorb the spiritual significance of the yatra. "I did not utter a word for days because I wanted to be with god. I broke my vow after I entered India, but I don't have words to describe the cosmic energy I felt in Lord Shiva's abode," she said.

> I did not utter a word for days because I wanted to be with god. I broke my vow after I entered India, but I don't have words to describe the cosmic energy I felt there
>
> **DAMINI PANDYA**
> Pilgrim

Pandya and more than 30 other yatris spent a week in Tibet's Ngari prefecture, where they trekked the 52-km circumference of Mount Kailash, called the *parikrama* or the *kora*.

This was Pandya's second solo trip after 2019. She entered Tibet through the Lipulekh pass in Uttarakhand, which, she said, was a shorter route compared to the journey through Nathu La pass. It may well be her last visit to Mount Kailash, as the Chinese government has restricted the yatra to those under the age of 70, given the high altitude and concerns about illnesses.

The youngest member of the group, Arpit Rai, 19, from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh, who travelled with his father Shashikant Rai, 55, said he is keen to return to Mount Kailash. "Between Kashi (another name for Varanasi) and Kailash, Shivji (Lord Shiva) is the common factor. Perhaps Shivji wanted us to visit together for the first time. It was an unforgettable journey despite the long travel time in altitudes we are not used to," he said. The yatris travelled for 14 days by bus covering nearly 3,000 km and took three days to do the *parikrama* by foot, covering around 50 km.

Geopolitical considerations

Damini Pandya and the Rais were part of the first batch of Indian pilgrims since 2019 who were allowed to cross into Tibet as part of the Kailash-Manasarovar Yatra, organised by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs and the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In 2020, the COVID-19 lockdown; the violent clashes between the Indian Army and the People's Liberation Army at Galwan Valley along the Line of Actual Control; and stand-offs at other points such as Demchok, about 250 km from Kailash Manasarovar, ensured the yatra was suspended. Four years later, after talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping, Delhi and Beijing began discussions on normalising relations and restoring a number of different mechanisms between them. The yatra, held between June and August each year due to weather conditions, was prioritised, even as other mechanisms, such as direct flights between India and China, are set to restart.

Suman Lata, who recently retired as a school teacher in Delhi, said that while crossing over, the group did not feel any of the tensions between the neighbours that have dominated bilateral ties over the past few years. "We have no link with politics, so we don't think about such things. I can only say that the Indian government sent us off very well and the Chinese government has received us extremely well too," she said. Lata was among the 13 women in the group. Like her, six more had come alone on the yatra.

For officials on both sides, the final go-ahead in February 2025 presented a daunting task. They had to build facilities along the way in a short period of time. These included reviving immigration posts at various entry points for the yatris, providing rest stops, oxygen banks, and medical facilities. At the hostel in Zhunzhui Pu, near Taklakot, where the pilgrims stopped for a night before beginning the Kailash *parikrama*, extra tents were set up inside the atrium to accommodate more people.

This is a part of Tibet where people live off subsistence farming. Tourism is the only means of making a living, local workers said, adding that the resumption of the yatra has come as a relief for them. According to the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra website, yatris who pay about ₹3 lakh for arrangements need to budget about 990 Renminbi or RMB (₹12,000) to pay the local porters and 2,370 RMB (about ₹29,000) for pony handlers. In addition, many of the porters sometimes do odd jobs for the yatris and make some extra cash, just enough to get by during the brutal winters.

During the years when the yatra stood suspended, pilgrims came in via Nepali tour groups. They included many people of Indian origin from the U.S. and the U.K. But the yatra, and Indian pilgrims in particular, have been a mainstay for the local workers in Tibet.

Preparing for the journey

According to an External Affairs Ministry response in Parliament, the number of pilgrims allowed to join the yatra each year, which is negotiated between the foreign ministries of India and China, has fluctuated every year since the route was reopened in 1981. In 2015, there were 999 pilgrims. By 2019, there were 1,364.

Each of the 15 batches of yatris (10 via Nathu-La pass and five via Lipulekh pass) of about 50 pilgrims this time includes two liaison officers – government officials who apply to join the yatra; 2-4 cooks; and a medical officer from the Indo-Tibetan Border Police. Each of the pilgrims is chosen by a computerised lottery. Of about 5,000 applicants, 750 were chosen this year. They then had to undergo strenuous medical tests to be proclaimed fit to undertake the journey.

"Despite the acclimatisation for two days each at two centres in Sikkim – one at 11,000 feet and the other at 13,500 feet – some 30 out of the 33 pilgrims in my batch experienced high-altitude sickness and breathlessness at times," said the medical officer, who did not want to be named. "My job was to monitor the health of the pilgrims and ensure that those with hypertension and diabetes take their medicines regularly. A few experienced cramps, but they were too excited by the experience to let these affect them," he said.

One of the cooks, who also did not wish to be named, said it was a challenge to prepare vegetarian food for people from so many different parts of India. But previous experience with the armed forces helped. "When one caters to soldiers with different acquired tastes from all over the country, one finds the formula to make something that appeals to everyone. We focused on pulse-based items and vegetables provided by the Chinese authorities," he said.

While many pilgrims praised the arrangements, some expressed discomfort with the sanitation facilities along the way. According to retired Wing Commander of the Indian Air Force Sadanand Jakhare, they were "comparable to public toilets in India".

He said, "The Chinese officials were hospitable, although restrictive and not very expressive. They declined to let us explore the countryside, even a little beyond the designated places. We were under constant watch." However, he added that he was "impressed" by the roads and the use of solar power that he saw along the way.

Some people were also unhappy about the restrictions on worship. Pilgrims are not allowed to take a full dip in Manasarovar Lake. Officials said the practice was discontinued in 2016 after Indian pilgrims were found using soap to wash themselves in the lake, and leaving items of clothing and jewellery there.

"The yatra is not for comfort," said Devi Prasad Ketkar, a retired manager from Mumbai, who was on the pilgrimage with his wife Pradnya.

Ketkar also served on the organising committees for the group. "There is no place for negative energy or negative comments during our visit here. Visiting Mount Kailash and doing the *parikrama* gives us all the answers we need," he said, as others in the group nodded.

As the pilgrims stepped into the waters of Manasarovar Lake, the air was filled with chants of 'Om Namah Shivaya', 'Om Parvati Pataye Namah', and 'Har Har Mahadev'.

A melange of faiths

In Hindu scriptures, Mount Kailash is believed to be the home of Lord Shiva and his consort Parvati, who live there with their sons Kartikeya (Muruga) and the elephant-headed god, Ganesha. Lake Manasarovar, where the gods and goddesses are believed to descend for a bath every day, was created, according to the scriptures, by Lord Brahma from a part of his brain (*manas* means mind and *sarovar* means lake in Sanskrit).

With its peak at 21,778 feet, Mount Kailash has not been summitted in modern memory. After 2001, the Chinese government banned attempts to climb it due to the religious sensitivities of different faiths. Mount Kailash has four rock faces (north, south, east, west), with characteristic snow ridges on one side. The features of the mountain are believed to resemble the 'three eyes' of Lord Shiva, specifically the *tripendra* (three lines of ash worn on the forehead), and his spine. This makes it a marvel for pilgrims as they circumambulate the mountain.

Along the route, there are devotees of other religions as well. Buddhists believe that Gautam Buddha's (Siddhartha's) mother Maya visited Lake Manasarovar. They also say that Mount Kailash, or Mount Meru as it is called, is the source of spiritual energy in the world.

For Jains, the founder of the faith Rishabhadeva, known as the first Tirthankara, is believed to have achieved salvation at the mountain.

For followers of the Bon tradition, the shamanistic religion that Tibetans adhered to until the 6th century King Songtsen Gampo introduced Buddhism, bringing texts from India, the mountain and the lake hold a special significance.

And for nature-worshippers, Mount Kailash and Manasarovar Lake represent the most mysterious of the Himalayan "mountain of mountains" and "source of all rivers", with the Ganga, Brahmaputra, Indus, and other major rivers emanating from these sites.

It is this melange of faiths that keeps travellers going on the rocky and rugged paths towards the sacred sites. With oxygen levels on the high plateau a significant 30% lower than in the plains, the area is tough for human habitation. Pilgrims often need dozes of high-altitude medicine – both allopathic and traditional Tibetan and Chinese potions made from extracts of the herb Rhodiola – as well as portable oxygen cannisters to keep going on the arduous trek.

> There is something that keeps drawing me to Kailash Manasarovar. I intend to go again in August via Nepal, two months before I become ineligible
>
> **RAJ YADAV**
> Pilgrim

Changing temperatures

While the weather is cold, dry, and harsh the year around, local tour guides and shopkeepers admitted that rising temperatures have become a concern as well. In the past few years, environmental agencies, including China's meteorological authority, have warned about climate change and global warming in the Tibetan plateau. They have said that there is a possibility of higher temperatures, glacial lakes overflooding, and a thinning of the permafrost, especially as the Chinese government undertakes major rail, road, and tunnelling infrastructure across the plateau.

In 2019, the Indian Ministry of Culture submitted an application to UNESCO for 'Sacred Mountain Landscape and Heritage Routes'. It requested world heritage status for Kailash Manasarovar-linked areas on the Indian side, to protect the ecosystem around the holy sites better. The Ministry also suggested that a similar exercise could be carried out on the Chinese side. But given security considerations, and the fact that the Pulan airport close to Kailash Manasarovar also serves as a major military and air force base, the area is unlikely to be opened up for the kind of scrutiny that international agencies would require.

For the yatris, however, what counts is the exhilaration of coming close to what they believe is the doorway to heaven. Raj and Vinod Yadav, former bankers in their late 60s, said that they have been on the yatra multiple times. Raj said that this was her 25th visit to Kailash Manasarovar, while her husband Vinod had travelled for the fifth time.

The Yadavs went on their first trip together in 2001 and then again the next year. "The pilgrimage became an addiction," Raj said. "I kept going every year, sometimes thrice a year, through all the routes in India and Nepal, including via choppers and flights from Kathmandu to Lhasa."

She is disappointed that China has restricted the age of pilgrims. "There is something that keeps drawing me to Kailash Manasarovar," she said. "I intend to go again in August via Nepal, two months before I become ineligible." She has already started making plans for her next and possibly last tryst with the sacred mountain and lake that remains a dream for many.

Suhasini Haidar was part of a delegation of journalists invited by the Embassy of China in India to cover the first Kailash Manasarovar Yatra since 2019, while Rahul Karmakar reported from Sikkim

Pilgrims share their experiences after returning from the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra, in Gangtok. RITU RAJ KONWAR

From Page One

PM hails 35 million diaspora as India's pride

"We are actively working on creating a comprehensive database of the Girmitiya community. Documenting the villages and cities in India from which their ancestors migrated, identifying the places where they have settled, studying and preserving the legacy of the Girmitiya ancestors, and working to organise World Girmitiya Conferences regularly," said Mr. Modi, documenting the various works being undertaken to connect India with the diaspora.

He congratulated Trinidad and Tobago for being the first country in the Caribbean to adopt India's UPI (Unified Payments Interface) system that would help in transfer of finance between the two sides.

OCI cards

Sixth generation Indian-origin citizens of Trinidad and Tobago will receive the Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) card, the Prime Minister said at the public event in capital Port of Spain.

The announcement is the first such outreach by India to the Caribbean nation, which is marking the 180th anniversary of the arrival of the Girmitiyas – in 2025.

"Today, I am happy to announce that OCI cards will now be given to the sixth generation of the Indian diaspora in Trinidad and Tobago. You are not just connected by blood or surname. You are connected by belonging," said Mr. Modi. "India embraces" the people of Trinidad and Tobago whose ancestors were brought from India during the colonial era, he said.

"You, the children of Girmitiyas, are not defined by struggle anymore. You are defined by your success, your service, and your values," said the Prime Minister. Earlier, Mr. Modi attended a dinner organised in his honour by Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar.

SC to examine T.N.'s plea on university laws

Senior advocates A.M. Singhvi, Rakesh Dwivedi and P. Wilson appeared for Tamil Nadu.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the UGC, said the Acts were completely repugnant to the UGC Regulations of 2018.

The State has argued that there was a strong presumption of constitutionality against laws passed by the legislature.

"Courts should be slow in passing interim orders in matters challenging constitutionality of provisions and against the strong presumption of constitutionality. The High Court passed an interim order directing stay of operation of provisions which take away power of appointment of Vice Chancellor from the hands of the Chancellor and vest the same in the government," the State's petition submitted.

India plans retaliatory tariffs on U.S. imports

In other words, as the U.S. had not conducted consultations with India over the issue, India reserves the right to suspend concessions provided to the U.S. equalling the amount that the U.S. tariffs would impact India's exports to the U.S.

"The proposed suspension of concessions or other obligations would take the form of an increase in tariffs on select products originating in the United States," India said.

It added that the U.S.' measures would affect $2,895 million worth of imports from India annually, on which the duty collection would be $723.75 million. "Accordingly, India's proposed suspension of concessions would result in an equivalent amount of duty collected from products originating in the United States," India said.

This is not the first time this year that India has informed the WTO of its proposal to retaliate against U.S. tariffs. *The Hindu* reported in May that India had issued a similar notification to the WTO regarding the U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminium. The retaliation on those, if imposed, would amount to $1.91 billion.

Nipah resurfaces in Kerala, two cases so far

They have begun tracing the contacts of the virus-infected persons and started implementing quarantine and surveillance measures.

Earlier, the Health Minister said Nipah protocols have been implemented in the State even before receiving final confirmation from NIV, Pune. As part of the protocol, 26 committees were formed across Malappuram, Kozhikode and Palakkad districts to coordinate measures and prevent the spread of the virus.

She said the help of the police was also sought to trace the contacts. There will be helplines at State and district levels and containment zones at the district level. District Collectors of Palakkad, Malappuram and Kozhikode will follow up the measures to be adopted to prevent the spread of the virus, she said.

The Health department has established State and district control rooms in connection with the Nipah outbreaks.

(With inputs from Thiruvananthapuram bureau)

'China used conflict between India and Pak. as a live lab'

Deputy Chief of Army Staff says Beijing wanted to cause harm through Islamabad rather than getting directly involved; he emphasises the need for establishing a robust air defence system

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

India had to deal with three adversaries during Operation Sindoor, with Pakistan being the "front face" and China and Turkiye providing vital support to India's western neighbour, Lieutenant-General Rahul R. Singh, Deputy Chief of Army Staff, said on Friday.

Lt. General Singh was addressing an event organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on "New Age Military Technologies".

Shedding light on the lessons learnt during Operation Sindoor, Lt. General Singh said the conflict emphasised the need for indigenisation of defence technology and a robust air-defence system, while stressing that the country must be prepared for the future.

Strategic talk: China's involvement extended beyond sharing intelligence with Pakistan, said Lt. General Rahul Singh. ANI

Lt. General Singh highlighted China's ancient military essay of *36 Stratagems*, which suggests killing the adversary with a "borrowed knife", to explain China's plan of causing harm to India through Pakistan. "China would rather use the neighbour to cause pain [to India] than getting involved in mudslinging on the northern border," he said. The officer revealed that China's involvement extended beyond intelligence-sharing, with Pakistan heavily dependent on Chinese military hardware.

"If you were to look at statistics in the last five years, 81% of the military hardware that Pakistan gets is from China. In the conflict, China was able to test its weapons against other weapons, so it is like a live lab available to them," Lt. General Singh said, further highlighting the "important role" played by Turkiye.

Lt. General Singh said the air defence system helped India during Operation Sindoor as there were "swarms of drones" from across the border. But he noted, "This time, our population centres were not quite addressed, but next time, we need to be prepared for that. We need a robust air defence system."

Operation Sindoor also showed the importance of a secure supply chain, he said. "The equipment that was supposed to be received in January has not been delivered yet. We still depend upon lot of things from outside and if all those equipment had been made available, the story may have been a little different," said Lt. General Singh.

Congress renews call for discussion on India-China ties

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In light of Deputy Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Rahul R. Singh's remarks regarding China's covert involvement in the recent India-Pakistan conflict, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said that for five years, the party has been demanding a debate in Parliament on Indo-China relations, which the government has consistently refused.

Mr. Ramesh, in a post on X, said that the Deputy Chief of Army Staff has "publicly confirmed" what has been talked about ever since Operation Sindoor was halted "abruptly at the intervention of President Trump".

"Lt. Gen Singh has revealed some details of the extraordinary ways by which China helped the Pakistan Air Force. This is the same China which completely destroyed the status quo in Ladakh five years ago but to which Prime Minister Modi gave a public clean chit," Mr. Ramesh wrote.

'Consistent refusal'

Since the 2020 Indo-China conflict, Mr. Ramesh said Congress has been demanding a discussion on the "full gamut of India-China relations" in the Parliament.

"The Modi govt. has consistently refused to have such a debate. The INC will continue to make this demand in the forthcoming monsoon session of Parliament" he said.

At least now, Mr. Ramesh said the government must agree so that a consensus can be built for a collective response to the geopolitical and economic challenges that China poses to India – directly and through Pakistan.

He also pointed out that China organised a trilateral meet with Pakistan and Bangladesh.

HC rejects plea to label Shahi Idgah as a disputed site

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The Allahabad High Court on Thursday dismissed a plea seeking that the Mathura-based Shahi Idgah mosque be referred to as "disputed structure".

A Bench of Justice Ram Manohar Narayan Mishra dismissed the plea filed by advocate Mahendra Pratap Singh, who requested the court to use the word "disputed structure" in place of "Shahi Idgah Mosque" in all further proceedings of this original suit, and other related cases.

The counsel representing the mosque submitted that the plaintiff was trying to introduce a new case through the backdoor and negate the admitted fact that 'Shahi Masjid Idgah' was a mosque.

Govt. has 'no position' on Dalai Lama succession, insists MEA; China warns against interference

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

In its first official statement over the Dalai Lama's succession plan announcement, the External Affairs Ministry on Friday said the government "does not take any position" on such religious issues.

The statement appeared to distance the government from the comments made on Thursday by Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, who had openly backed the Tibetan spiritual leader's right to decide his successor.

On Friday, Mr. Rijiju clarified that he had spoken as a "follower and a devotee", as he is a practising Buddhist himself, even as the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) sent out a strong statement, warning India about "interference" in China's "domestic affairs".

Contentious issue: China says appointment must be made by the Beijing government via process dating back to the Qing dynasty. AFP

"We have seen reports relating to the statement made by His Holiness the Dalai Lama about the continuation of the Dalai Lama institution," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, while adding: "Government of India does not take any position or speak on matters concerning beliefs and practices of faith and religion."

He said the government has "always upheld freedom of religion for all in India and will continue to do so", indicating its support for the Tibetan community living in India led by the Dalai Lama to practise their faith.

The External Affairs Ministry statement followed an announcement by the Dalai Lama, who turns 90 on July 6, asserting that the line of Tibetan Buddhism's most senior pontiff would continue after him.

In his announcement, the Dalai Lama told Buddhist leaders gathered for the birthday celebrations in Dharamshala that his successor, or reincarnation, would be identified by the Gaden Phodrang Trust set up by him, in consultation with other leaders, as the "sole authority".

The Chinese government insists any appointment must be approved by the government in Beijing, citing a traditional "golden urn" process dating back to the Qing dynasty.

On Thursday, Mr. Rijiju, one of the Ministers who will attend the Dalai Lama's birthday celebrations, had said that "nobody else has the right to decide" on the succession issue except the Dalai Lama "and the conventions in place".

In a sharp response to the statement as reported by *Reuters*, the Chinese MFA on Friday said that China hopes India "will stop using Tibet issues to interfere in domestic affairs and avoid affecting the development of ties".

Speaking to journalists on Friday, Mr. Rijiju repeated his support for the Dalai Lama's statement, but added that "those who believe in His Holiness the Dalai Lama, all want that he should decide matters according to his wishes". "I speak as a follower (*anuyayi*), I am a devotee," Mr. Rijiju said.

National Herald case: Sonia Gandhi's counsel refutes money laundering allegation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Terming the *National Herald* case being probed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) as 'very strange' and 'unprecedented', senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, on Friday argued that the central agency is probing money laundering, without any property and even without use or projection of property.

Mr. Singhvi, who is representing senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, one of the accused in the case, began his rebuttal after Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju concluded his arguments on behalf of the ED on July 3.

The submissions were made in the court of Special Judge Vishal Gogne of the Rouse Avenue Court, which is currently hearing the arguments on the point of cognisance of the chargesheet filed in the case.

"This is truly a strange case. More than strange. Unprecedented. This is an alleged case of money laundering, without any property, without use or projection of property," Mr. Singhvi argued.

Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi arrives for the court hearing. PTI

The case stems from the assignment of a ₹90 crore loan advanced by the Congress party to Associated Journals Limited (AJL), the publisher of *National Herald*, to Young Indian for a consideration of ₹50 lakh. It has been alleged that there was misappropriation of assets of over ₹2,000 crore in an equity transaction. The compliant in the case was filed by senior BJP leader Subramanian Swamy who highlighted a criminal conspiracy by several prominent political figures, including Ms. Gandhi, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, late Motilal Vohra, late Oscar Fernandes, Suman Dubey, Sam Pitroda, and a private company, Young Indian.

Rebutting the ED's claim that the Gandhi family held the majority 76% shares in Young Indian, which usurped assets of AJL, in exchange for a loan, Mr. Singhvi said that the same was undertaken to make AJL debt-free. He added that AJL was a not-for-profit company and hence it cannot give dividends, perks or even salaries. Every person does everything possible under the law to make their companies stay debt-free by a variety of instruments, and in some cases, they take away the debt and assign it to another entity, he said.

"They are, obviously, people associated with the Congress. To have the *National Herald* in a body not associated with the Congress would be worse than *Hamlet* without the Prince of Denmark," he said.

(With inputs from PTI)

Manipur govt. sets December target to wind up relief camps

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

The Manipur government has set a December target to shut down all relief camps housing people displaced by the conflict between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo people that broke out on May 3, 2023.

State Chief Secretary P.K. Singh told journalists in Imphal on Friday that a three-phase resettlement plan was worked out in consultation with the Centre, primarily the Ministry of Home Affairs.

He said the first of these three phases was under way.

"The Centre, the State government, and CSOs (civil society organisations) are working towards the resettlement of the internally displaced people. Some of them have started going back. The number of displaced, which was 62,000 in the beginning, is now about 57,000," Mr. Singh said.

He said some of the relief camp inmates would go back during the second phase by October, followed by the third phase by December. The Chief Secretary said the government would provide financial assistance of ₹3.03 lakh each to 7,000-8,000 families, whose houses were destroyed during the violence.

A displaced woman takes shelter at a relief camp in Moirang town in Manipur.

"The second category is of some 7,000 people whose houses are now dilapidated after two years of neglect," he said.

"We feel that even after December, there will be 8,000 to 10,000 people who will not be able to go back. They will be allowed to stay in some 1,000 prefabricated houses being built," he added.

'India will not ink a trade deal based on deadline'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India does not enter into any trade agreement based on deadlines and will accept the proposed trade deal with the U.S. only when it is fully finalised, properly concluded and in the national interest, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday.

He said India was negotiating free trade agreements (FTAs) with different countries, including the European Union, New Zealand, Oman, Chile and Peru.

FTAs are possible only when both sides get benefited and it should be a win-win agreement, Mr. Goyal told reporters when asked about the proposed interim trade agreement with the U.S.

"National interest should always be supreme. Keeping that in mind, if a deal is made then India is always ready to deal with developed countries," Mr. Goyal said.

Mr. Goyal said at present there was no plan to visit Washington for trade talks.

Allow Aadhaar and ration cards for Bihar poll roll revision: INDIA bloc

A delegation, led by coordination committee head Tejashwi Yadav, submitted its demands to the State Chief Electoral Officer; Rashtriya Janata Dal's national executive body that met in Patna opposed the exercise to revise the voter list

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

A delegation of INDIA bloc leaders on Friday met Bihar Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Vinod Singh Gunjiyal to raise their objection over the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls currently under way in Bihar.

INDIA bloc coordination committee head and Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav led the delegation, which said that the Union and State governments were hatching a conspiracy to prevent the deprived sections of society from exercising their franchise in the upcoming Assembly election in Bihar.

The INDIA bloc leaders termed the revision "impractical" and "anti-democratic". They demanded that Aadhaar cards, ration cards, and MGNREGA cards be included among the documents allowed for the verification and revision of the voter list.

Strategy time: RJD chief Lalu Prasad, Tejashwi Yadav, and Rabri Devi during the national executive meeting in Patna on Friday. PTI

RJD State president Mangani Lal Mandal, RJD leaders Manoj Kumar Jha, Sanjay Yadav and Alok Kumar Mehta, Bihar Congress chief Rajesh Kumar, Congress Legislature Party leader Shakeel Ahmad, Vikassheel Insaan Party's Mukesh Sahni, the CPI (ML)'s Kumar Parvez, the CPI's Ram Naresh Pandey, and the CPI(M)'s Lalan Choudhary were part of the delegation.

"On the instruction of Nitish Kumar, Narendra Modi, and Amit Shah, these things are happening because they have realised that they are losing the election and they will be thrown out of power in Bihar. Only 22 days are left, how will the Election Commission verify nearly eight crore voters? " Mr. Yadav asked

He further said, "On the same voter list, the 2024 Lok Sabha election was conducted. If that voters list was fake, then election was also fake and the government which was formed too was fake. Why was this decision taken in haste?"

"Around three crore registered people from Bihar have migrated to other States to earn a living. Nothing is being said clearly about such people," Mr. Yadav said, adding that the Opposition *mahagathbandhan* will hold "chakka jam on July 9" (road blockades) in protest against the SIR of electoral rolls.

'Mood for change'

The RJD's national executive, at a meeting in Patna, decided to oppose the revision of the voter list. The meeting was chaired by RJD national president Lalu Prasad, who proposed a national council meeting and the party's open session on Saturday.

Mr. Prasad said the people of Bihar were in a mood for change in government. In a post on X earlier in the day, he said, "The *sanghis* have brought the country's democracy to such a stage where citizens are struggling to protect their right to vote, and attempts are being made by the government to snatch away their voting rights. The Election Commission is hatching conspiracies to deprive voters of their right to vote. The EC is discouraging voters and subjecting them to mental, economic, and social harassment. Instead of verifying votes, it is asking citizens to prove their citizenship. It is not even accepting the Aadhaar card issued by the Government of India. We will not let their hooliganism prevail."

Kushwaha concerned

Even BJP ally and Rashtriya Lok Morcha leader Upendra Kushwaha raised concerns over the short time for the revision. He was speaking to the media in New Delhi.

Enumeration forms given to 87% electors in Bihar for voter list revision, says EC

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Friday said that over 87% of the enumeration forms had already been distributed to nearly 1.5 crore households in Bihar as part of the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Nearly 5% of voters have already submitted the forms.

The last date for submission of the forms is July 25. In case an individual does not submit the form by that date, the applicant's name will not figure in the draft electoral roll to be published on August 1.

The first visit of the booth-level officers (BLOs) to nearly 1.5 crore households in the State was completed on Friday. Enumeration forms were given to 6,86,17,932 of the total 7,89,69,844 electors in Bihar who are enrolled as on June 24, the EC said in a statement. "The remaining houses could be locked, or of dead electors, or of migrants or of those who may be travelling," it added. Since the BLOs will be visiting the houses of the electors thrice during the exercise, these figures are likely to increase further.

Paper trail: An elderly voter being given the enumeration form by a booth-level officer in Madhubani. PTI

Nearly 5% filled-up and signed forms – nearly 38 lakh forms – have already been received by the BLOs.

As per SIR, in order to get one's name in the draft electoral roll to be published on August 1, the strict condition is that an elector should sign and submit the pre-printed enumeration form before July 25, along with the stipulated documents. The EC has given a list of 11 documents that can be attached to prove the applicant's eligibility as a voter.

Simultaneous verification of the uploaded forms has also been started. The poll body has said that verification will start vigorously from August 2 onwards. The final electoral rolls will be published on September 30.

CJI assures 'complete transparency' in the collegium system for appointments

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai on Friday said the collegium system for appointment of judges would uphold the principles of merit, transparency, and inclusive representation, and the process would not be compromised by external pressures.

Speaking at a felicitation event hosted by the Bombay Bar Association in his honour, the CJI said, "We will adopt a procedure of complete transparency. Merit will never be compromised. We will have representatives from all sections of society."

B.R. Gavai

He noted that efforts to increase transparency within the collegium had already been under way during the tenure of his predecessor, Justice Sanjiv Khanna. He also addressed recent concerns raised publicly by Justice Dipankar Datta about alleged interference in the collegium's functioning, stating that all names recommended would be duly followed up and considered fairly.

Reflecting on his own elevation to the Supreme Court in 2019, CJI Gavai revealed that not all members of the collegium were initially in support. "One of the collegium judges had some reservations, thinking my elevation might lead to unrest among senior members of the Mumbai Bar," he said. "But several senior lawyers met the judge in Delhi and clarified the matter."

He expressed gratitude to the Bombay Bar Association, saying, "I will always remain indebted. My elevation to the Supreme Court, and now as Chief Justice of India, would not have been possible without the Bar's support."

The Chief Justice also clarified that the Supreme Court should not be viewed as being centred around one individual. "The Supreme Court is not a CJI-centric court. The Chief Justice is only the first among equals," he said.

Congress slams electoral roll revision as 'sinister exercise'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Alleging that the special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls in Bihar is a "sinister exercise", the Congress on Friday said it would not "let this go through".

INDIA bloc has met the EC to express its reservation against the SIR of Bihar electoral rolls

"This government specialises in giving people hell. The SIR is a sinister exercise to deprive lakhs of voters of their franchise. The unnecessary haste, and their absolute refusal to address genuine concerns raised by the Opposition, point to there being a clear effort to destroy the electoral system in Bihar," Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said in a post on X.

His post was accompanied by a news report stating that several registered voters were unable to furnish additional documents that the Election Commission (EC) officials had asked for in the SIR.

"We will not let this go through. They must halt this ridiculous exercise immediately," Mr. Venugopal added.

The INDIA bloc has already met the EC to express its reservation against the SIR of Bihar electoral rolls ahead of the Assembly polls.

The party is now exploring legal options, including that of moving the Supreme Court to halt the exercise.

The INDIA bloc's argument is that the electoral revision could weed out 20% of State's population who migrate for work outside Bihar.

Polls can be held based on 2024 rolls, says CPI leader

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Underlining the danger that several lakh voters could face exclusion from the electoral rolls under the special intensive revision, CPI general secretary D. Raja urged the panel to revisit its decision.

"There is very little time available... The EC would be well advised to postpone the revision. Election can be held on the basis of the electoral rolls, which were used for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," he said.

SC Collegium recommends appointment of 39 judges

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, has recommended the appointment of 39 individuals as judges across nine High Courts. The recommendations, made on July 1 and 2, follow intensive in-person and virtual interactions with candidates drawn from among judicial officers and practising advocates.

The High Courts concerned are those of Delhi, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Patna, Gauhati, and Allahabad.

The development comes against the backdrop of a persistent crisis of judicial vacancies coupled with rising case pendency.

As on July 1, the High Courts have 371 vacancies out of a sanctioned strength of 1,122. The current working strength stands at 751 judges.

In January this year, a Special Bench of the Supreme Court permitted the High Courts to appoint retired judges as *ad hoc* judges under Article 224A of the Constitution to alleviate the mounting backlog.

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (एम्स), भुवनेश्वर
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AIIMS), BHUBANESWAR
(A Statutory body under aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
Sijua, Post-Dumuduma, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) -751019
DEANAC-25016/1/2024-DEAN ACADEMIC/3145 Date: 3rd July, 2025
SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR BACKLOG VACANCY
RECRUITMENT OF TUTOR/DEMONSTRATOR AT AIIMS, BHUBANESWAR
Online Applications are invited from eligible candidates for appointment as Tutor/Demonstrator on Contract basis for a period of One Year at AIIMS, Bhubaneswar.
NUMBER OF VACANCIES: 20
Eligibility criteria (age, qualification, etc.), requisite fee and other details, are available on www.aiimsbhubaneswar.nic.in vide Advertisement No. DEANAC-25016/1/2024-DEAN ACADEMIC /3133 dated 01st July, 2025.
Any query please contact Academic Section, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar. (Email-ID: acad_rectt@aiimsbhubaneswar.edu.in)
Candidates are advised to visit our website www.aiimsbhubaneswar.nic.in. regularly for latest update.
Sd/-
REGISTRAR
AIIMS, Bhubaneswar

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA Mail ID :- sepwdsbp@rediffmail.com
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, NORTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE: SAMBALPUR
e - Procurement BID IDENTIFICATION No CCENC (R AND B)/03/2025-26
No.2224 Dtd.25/06/2025
1. The Chief Construction Engineer, Northern (R&B) Circle, Sambalpur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE for the construction of Road Work and Bridge Work as detailed in the DTCN from the eligible class of contractors.
2. No of works = 06 (SIX) (Road Works)
3. Tender Cost : Rs.10,000/-
4. Class of contractor : "B" Class, "A" Class and "Special" Class
5. Date & Time of available in web site & receipt of Bids : From 04.07.2025 to 17.00 Hours of 21.07.2025.
6. Date of opening of Technical Bid : 22.07.2025 at 11.00 Hours.
7. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in.
8. Any corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in.
Chief Construction Engineer, Northern (R&B) Circle, Sambalpur.
B-252: OIPR-34035/11/0028/2526

idco Your power to grow ISO 9001 & 14001 Corporation | ODISHA NEW OPPORTUNITIES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C)
IDCO, IDCO TOWER, BHUBANESWAR
Tender Call Notice No. File No.: HO/P&C/EST/E-2911/04/2025 18919 Dated : 30.06.2025
Bid Identification No.: P&C/EST/E-26/2025-26
NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH e-Procurement
Name of the Work : Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 250 KVA Silent type DG Set along with associated works including CAMC for IPICOL, Bhubaneswar.
Tender Value : Rs. 39,47,205.00 (Excluding GST).

Procurement Officer	Period of Completion	Availability of Tender On-Line for Bidding	
		From	To
1	2	3	4
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO Tower, Bhubaneswar.	3 (Three Calendar Months)	17:00 Hours of dt : 07.07.2025	17:00 Hours of dt: 21.07.2025

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal www.Tendersodisha.gov.in and Corrigendum if any will be published in newspapers and can only be seen in the e-Procurement portal as well as in IDCO Website .
Sd/- Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, Bhubaneswar
CAD-963: OIPR-14003/11/0188/2526

School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal
(An Institution of National Importance, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)
Neelbad Road, Bhauri, Bhopal – 462030 (M.P) INDIA
Ph. 0755-2526800, 2526812, 2526823
No.SPAB/RGO/Advt./2025-26/05 Date: 05.07.2025
Recruitment of Non – Teaching Positions
Applications are invited for the posts of Registrar & Junior Assistant (ST). Last date of submission of online application is 28.07.2025. Eligibility criteria and other details are available on Institute website www.spabhopal.ac.in.
Registrar

कार्यालय नगर पालिका नदबई (भरतपुर) राज0
Mail Id :- nadbai.jaipur@yahoo.com Ph. No.: 05643-276696
क्रमांक :– न.पा.न./स्टोर/2025–26/1475 दिनांक : 02.07.2025
BID No. 01/2025-26
नगर पालिका नदबई में निम्न लिखित कार्यों को करवाये जाने वास्ते राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के विभिन्न उपक्रमों में रजिस्टर्ड संवेदकों/फर्म/संस्थाओं के माध्यम से ऑन लाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जा रही हैं। निविदा प्रपत्र eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर या SPPP पोर्टल से या किसी भी कार्य दिवस में कार्यालय में उपस्थित होकर प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं। कार्यों के यू.बी.एन. नम्बर निम्न प्रकार हैं :–
DLB2526SLOB09787
राज.संवाद/सी/25/5556
अधिशाषी अधिकारी
नगर पालिका नदबई

CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES
(Planning Dept, Govt. of Telangana & ICSSR-Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)
Nizamiah Observatory Campus, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016, Telangana, India. Phone: 040-23416610-13, 23402789, 23416780, Fax: 040-23406808 Email: admissionsdgs@cess.ac.in, Website: https://cess.ac.in/
Ph.D ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26
The Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad in collaboration with Telangana University, Nizamabad invites applications for Admission into Ph.D Programme with focus on Development Studies for the Academic Year 2025-26. The Ph.D Programme at CESS is in accordance with the UGC Regulations-2022. Candidates qualified in the National Eligibility Tests, such as, UGC-JRF and UGC-NET are eligible to apply for admission. The Programme is offered in the following subjects:

1. ECONOMICS/AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
2. SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY/SOCIAL WORK
3. POLITICAL SCIENCE/PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
4. COMMERCE/BUSINESS MANAGEMENT [Related to Research Areas of CESS]
Last date for receiving Applications: 1st AUGUST 2025
Please see website: https://cess.ac.in/ for details

05 July 2025 DIRECTOR

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600, 2945646)
E-mail : edrugs.kmscl@kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616
No.KMSCL/ED/7-RT/2025 Date : 03.07.2025
RE-TENDER NOTICE
Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers / loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the procurement of following categories of drugs / supplies for the year 2025-26.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	Category	No. of Items
1.	KMSCL/ED/ACD/RT/2025/016 dtd. 03.07.2025	Anti Cancer Drugs	41
2.	KMSCL/ED/III-VIII/RT/2025/017 dtd. 03.07.2025	Consumables & Surgical items	23

Schedule of dates

	Date	Time
Last date of online uploading of tenders	19.07.2025	Up to 05.00pm.
Date of technical bid opening	23.07.2025	11.00 am. onwards

Tenders shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. (Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(Yermarus Thermal Power Station)
(Joint venture of KPCL and BHEL)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582
ABSTRACT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two cover system) (Through e-procurement portal only)
Item wise tenders are invited through e-procurement portal www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for the following works:
(1) KPCL/2025-26/IND1675, Dated: 24.06.2025. Name of the Work: Supply of 200KL of LDO IS-15770-2008 through Road Tankers. Last date and time for bid submission: 10.07.2025 upto 14:30 hrs.
(2) KPCL/2025-26/IND1772, Dated: 25.06.2025. Name of the Work: Supply of 5760 KL of HFO IS-1593-1982 through Railway BTPN Wagons. Last date and time for bid submission: 12.07.2025 upto 17:30 hrs.
Further details can be had from office of the Executive Engineer (M-2), RPCL/YTPS, Yermarus - 584 134, Raichur Dist., Karnataka. Mobile: +91 82775 02840.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE & MISSION DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION, A.P.
Finance Wing: 688/NHM/Fin/SPMU/S. Audit/2012
Tender invited for hiring services of Chartered Accountant firm for Statutory Audit for the Financial Year 2024-25 on the Accounts of National Health Mission, ECRP-II & PM-ABHIM of Andhra Pradesh. For complete details, please visit our website cfw.ap.nic.in Date for pre-bid conference: 07.07.2025, Last date for submission of bids: 11.07.2025 at 5.30 PM
DIPR 4240PP/CL, Dt.04-07-2025 Sd/- For Mission Director, NHM

INBRIEF

Govt. to start accepting Haj applications from next week

Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Friday said the government will start accepting applications for Haj-2026 within a week. Terming the management of Haj-2025 as historic, Mr. Rijiju said that "it was one of the most successful ever". Highlighting that the fatality rate has gone down to 64 this year from 220 in 2024, the Minister also gave credit of Haj's success to External Affairs Ministry, Civil Aviation Ministry and Health Ministry. Speaking to press after participating in the Haj review meeting, held at Ambedkar International Centre in Delhi on Friday, Mr. Rijiju added that the government was planning to build on this success to ensure an even more seamless experience in 2026.

Contradictions in statement of Pune rape victim: police

Days after an unidentified man allegedly raped a Pune-based IT professional, the police on Friday said they had detained the suspect. However, the police have made new revelations and said the suspect was the survivor's friend, who she claimed was a courier delivery agent. After investigation, the police found that the woman herself had taken the selfie and typed the threatening message, putting in question her claims of rape. "There are a lot of contradictions in her statements, so we are not prosecuting the woman nor arresting the suspect. We are recording their statements and probing both," Police Commissioner Amitesh Kumar said.

Families of 47 victims of Air India plane crash receive interim payout

Interim compensation of ₹25 lakh is part of minimum liability for airlines in case of death or bodily injury for international flights; legal experts advise kin of victims to avoid waiving rights to further reparations when accepting interim payments

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Air India has paid an interim compensation of ₹25 lakh each to the families of 47 victims of the June 12 plane crash so far, and documents of 55 other claimants are being verified as legal experts with experience in aviation disaster cases advise relatives to avoid waiving their rights to further reparations when accepting interim payments, which have in the past resulted in reduced overall payouts.

"Passengers must be cautious and not sign any undertaking forgoing their rights as we have seen in all previous crashes, be it the bombing of Air India Kanishka AI 182 in 1985, or the more recent Mangalore air crash of 2010 and Kozhikode accident of 2020 involving Air India Express, where families received a compensation of a few lakhs, instead of a minimum liability of ₹75 lakh ten years ago or nearly ₹1.3 crore five years ago as per international convention," Sanjay Lazar, aviation consultant and former head of All India Cabin Crew Association, who has helped crew and passengers in

Disaster site: An FSL team examines the crashed Air India Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner aircraft in Ahmedabad. VIJAY SONEJI

past crashes, told *The Hindu*. The interim compensation of ₹25 lakh is part of the minimum legal liability for airlines in case of death or bodily injury for international flights, defined under the United Nations aviation safety watchdog International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)'s Montreal Convention 1999, that will be paid through Air India's insurers. On top of this, the Tata Group has announced an ex gratia of ₹1 crore each for the families of the deceased through a ₹500-crore trust it will be setting up.

Families of 241 out of 242 passengers and crew aboard the ill-fated Boeing 787 aircraft, as well as those of 19 people killed at the B.J. Medical College where the aircraft crashed, will be entitled to a compensation, in addition to those injured.

In October 2023, the Supreme Court issued notices on special leave petitions (SLPs) filed by injured passengers seeking higher compensation following the Kozhikode crash who claimed that they had only been provided a nominal compensation for their losses, which they believed was only an interim settlement. Senior advocate and former Attorney-General K.K. Venugopal, representing the petitioners, stated before the court that the injured had entered into agreements with Air India by which they accepted ₹12 lakh or ₹35 lakh, whereas under the Montreal Convention they should have received ₹1.34 crore as a fixed amount. Air India Express had maintained that the complainants could not demand further compensation as they had already entered into an agreement. Of the 190 people aboard the Boeing 737 aircraft, 21 died and several were injured.

Compensations can far exceed the limits laid down under the Montreal Convention as it merely defines airlines' liabilities, which was raised to 151,880 Special Drawing Rights [an IMF asset whose value is based on a basket of the world's five leading currencies], or ₹1.87 crore approximately, for death or bodily injury, and is an unlimited amount when there is airline negligence.

The convention or the Indian law that ratifies it – Carriage By Air Act, 1972 – does not regulate how much a passenger can recover, explains Yeshwant Shenoy, president of Kerala High Court Advocates' Association, who helped a family bag the highest compensation of ₹11.5 crore (or ₹7.64 crore and 9% interest for every year there is a delay in payout) following the Mangalore air crash as per a Supreme Court order on March 3, 2020. Mr. Shenoy was also instrumental in the Mumbai High Court directing Air India to pay a compensation of ₹8 crore to the family of Captain Zlatko Glusica, one of the two pilots who died in the Mangalore crash. An appeal on the matter is pending before the top court.

Judicial precedent

For awarding compensation to air crash victims, Indian courts have relied on the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, which provides the framework for compensation to road accident victims, Mr. Shenoy explains. The Supreme Court order in *Kodkany vs Air India* also refers to judgments in the *National Insurance Company Limited vs Pranay Sethi* and *Sarla Verma vs Delhi Transport Corporation* for calculating income and personal expenses for arriving at a compensation.

Under Indian law, the key criteria for determining compensation for families of crash victims is the earning capacity of the deceased. The next two parameters are age of the deceased and the number of dependents.

DGCA warned Air India Express about delay in fixing Airbus engine

Reuters
NEW DELHI

Aviation watchdog, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), reprimanded Air India's budget carrier in March for not timely changing engine parts of an Airbus A320 as directed by European Union's aviation safety agency, and falsifying records to show compliance, a government memo showed.

In a statement, Air India Express told *Reuters* that it acknowledged the error to DGCA and undertook "remedial action and preventive measures".

Air India has been under intense scrutiny since the June Boeing Dreamliner crash in Ahmedabad which killed all but one of the 242 people aboard.

The engine issue in the Air India Express' Airbus was raised on March 18, months before the crash. But the regulator has this year also warned parent Air India for breaching rules for flying three Airbus planes with overdue checks on escape slides, and in June warned it about "serious violations" of pilot duty timings.

Air India Express is a subsidiary of Air India, which is owned by the Tata Group.

SC refuses to intervene in HDFC Bank CEO's plea

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to intervene in a plea filed by HDFC Bank CEO and MD Sashidhar Jagdishan to quash a first information report (FIR) registered against him on the basis of a complaint filed by the Lilavati Kirtilal Mehta Medical Trust, which runs the Mumbai-based Lilavati Hospital.

A Bench of Justices P.S. Narasimha and R. Mahadevan declined to step in after noting that the case was already listed before the Bombay High Court on July 14.

"In view of the listing of the matter on July 14, there is no occasion for us to entertain the special leave petition," the top court observed.

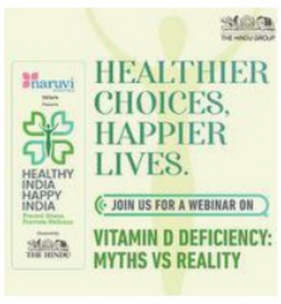
Webinar to discuss Vitamin D deficiency to be held tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore, in collaboration with *The Hindu*, will present a webinar on "Vitamin D Deficiency: Myths vs Reality" at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday.

This is the 14th webinar in the 15-part series organised as part of the "Healthy India, Happy India" initiative.

Kurien Thomas, senior consultant, physician and clinical epidemiologist, Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore, will speak on "Myths & Realities in Vitamin D Related to Bone and Mineral Metabolism", while Pranita Vanjare, consultant, geriatrics and internal medicine, Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore, will elaborate on "Extra-Skeletal Manifestations of Vitamin D".



Aneesh Basheer, Professor of medicine, SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Chennai, and consultant, Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore, will speak on "High-Risk Groups and Vitamin D Deficiency". Soma Basu, senior deputy editor, *The Hindu*, will moderate the session. For details, go to newsth.live/HIHIUIE or scan the QR code.

CUET-UG: 1 candidate scores 100 percentile in 4 subjects, 17 bag top score in 3 subjects

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The National Testing Agency (NTA) on Friday announced the results for the Common Entrance University Test for undergraduate courses.

One candidate scored 100 percentile in four out of five subjects, while 17 scored 100 percentile in three subjects.

A merit list will be prepared by the participating universities and organisations. Universities will decide about their counselling based on the scorecard provided by the NTA.

The NTA conducted CUET (UG), 2025 in computer-based test (CBT) mode for 13,54,699 candidates.

The exam was conducted between May 13 and June 4, and a total of 10,71,735 candidates appeared.

The NTA conducted CUET (UG), 2025 in computer-based test mode for 13,54,699 candidates.

Subjects offered

In total, 37 subjects – 13 languages, 23 domain-specific subjects, and one General Aptitude Test – were offered to the candidates. Candidates could choose up to a maximum of five subjects, including languages and the General Aptitude Test. About 322 unique question papers and 1,059 total question papers, including 13 languages – a total of 57,940 questions – were administered over 19 days in 35 shifts.

The medium of the question paper was in 13 languages: English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu.

The CUET (UG) provided a single-window opportunity to students seeking admission in any of the Central universities or other participating organisations, including the State universities, deemed, and private universities across the country.

SC refuses petition by candidate challenging NEET-UG, 2025 results

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused a plea by a candidate to "correct" the final answer key of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test, 2025, for undergraduate courses in accordance with the authoritative National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) standards and declare results afresh.

A Bench of Justices P.S. Narasimha and R. Mahadevan dismissed the plea made by Shivam Gandhi Raina, represented by senior advocate R. Balasubramanium and advocate Sriram Parakkat, for an interim stay on the commencement or continuation of the counselling process.

Noting that a similar petition to stay the NEET-UG answer key and results had come up and been dismissed a few days back, the court said it would not "interfere in a national exam, putting the lives and careers of thousands of students at risk".

When Mr. Balasubramanium pointed out that the top court had intervened in previous years when answer keys were found to be wrong in multiple choice questions, the Bench noted that a committee of experts had been constituted in the aftermath of such judicial interventions to reform the question system. "We cannot tackle individual grievances like this," Justice Narasimha remarked.

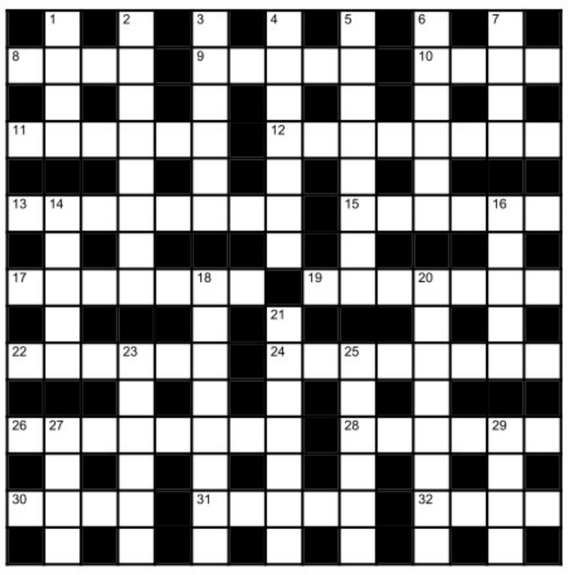
The petition alleged the violation of Articles 14 and 21A due to errors in the answer key.

TH CROSSWORD + 14529

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Setter's North American bird (4)
9 Flower — one having Rhesus factor at first (5)
10 Bird losing foot is 1/12th of a foot (4)
11 Kind of pigeon that won't go astray? (6)
12 Lean, wearing wooden shoe, and apparel (8)
13 Famous composer playing role is a man eligible for marriage (8)
15 Disembark for match, perhaps (1,5)
17 Friends pass away, covered by unopened flowers (7)
19 Intoxicated dupe has early intimation (5,2)
22 Promise trouble (6)
24 Court two daughters standing on either side of that lady in place for storing timber (8)
26 For example, referee in match. It's formally announced (8)
28 Flowers that can be got from Ellis island? (6)
30 Used to be tiny around end of summer (4)
31 Small part of chapel finial (5)
32 Cross Bath by noon (4)

Down

1 Beginner's toy spins around radius (4)
2 Setter entered vehicle garage and disappeared (8)
3 Economical fur arranged by girl (6)
4 Criminal certain to release Ian for musical performance (7)
5 Squash melon now using energy to make drink (8)
6 This, funnily, starts to recite incantations in the beginning of the Jewish year (6)
7 Swedish leader is able to read (4)
14/16 What a dramatist and poker player might like... (1,4,5)
18 Dancing teen wins and twists (8)
20 Reveal daughter is nearby (8)
21/27 Reason why quadrupeds can't dance? (3,4,4)
23 A kind of pig for a pound in gold? (6)
25 Oscar ran away from Rangoon in a frenzy after consuming large tea (6)
27 See 21
29 CID leaving Iceland in style (4)

SUDOKU

8		5	9				6	7
	3	9	5	1				
					2	3		
2							3	1
		4				2		
3	5							6
		3	2					
				4	1	6	5	
1	6				3	9		2

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

No.SS6571 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	5	2	6	8	1	9	4	3
4	8	3	9	5	7	1	2	6
1	6	9	4	3	2	5	7	8
9	7	6	2	4	3	8	5	1
5	3	1	8	7	6	4	9	2
2	4	8	1	9	5	3	6	7
3	2	7	5	1	4	6	8	9
6	9	5	3	2	8	7	1	4
8	1	4	7	6	9	2	3	5

FAITH

Muharram, month of God

Muharram is the first month of the Islamic lunar Hijri calendar (Hijirah, because the Prophet began his migration on that day, thereby giving the name Hijri to the calendar), to the city of Yathrib, where the Prophet became the leader of the city, thereafter renamed Madinat Al Nawabi, or the City of the Prophet, said Syed Meeran.

Muslims of both sects (Shia and Sunni) view and value the tenth of Muharram with considerable significance. For the Sunnis it is the day on which God saved Moses and his people from the Pharaoh and thus they demonstrate their gratitude by fasting. It also holds reverence because it is believed God created Adam and Eve on this day.

Another significance of Ashura is the martyrdom of Iman Hussain, the son of Imam Ali, the cousin and son-in-law of the Prophet, and the fourth Caliph of Islam and for the Shiite Muslims, the first Imam of the community. Hussain's martyrdom provides an example of selfless sacrifice in the cause of God's justice in the face of human oppression. This event took place around fifty years after the passing of the Prophet. Yazid was forcibly assuming leadership of the Muslim community and was demanding that Hussain swear allegiance to him. Hussain rejected the proposition seeing Yazid unfit for office. At the battlefield of Karbala, 5,000 of Yazid's forces stormed the Hussain's contingent of 80 people. What ensued was a massacre. The last one standing was Hussain himself.

Thus the 'Month of God', of Prophets and celebrated heroes and martyrs, Muharram continues to be one of the most significant months, in terms of worship and the opportunities it affords to learn about the long history.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	83,433	0.23
US Dollar	85.40	0.17
Gold	99,020	-0.60
Brent oil	68.40	-0.52

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2599.10	-12.10
Adani Ports	1424.40	-6.70
Apollo Hosp	7553.50	-11.50
Asian Paints	2424.20	-6.70
Axis Bank	1177.60	6.50
Bajaj Auto	8433.00	50.50
Bajaj Finserv	1994.40	13.70
Bajaj Finance	925.30	15.15
Bharat Elec	427.55	1.30
Bharti Airtel	2017.20	-2.10
Cipla	1513.30	4.60
Coal India	386.10	-0.35
Dr Reddys Lab	1307.40	16.10
Eicher Motors	5629.00	-87.00
Eternal Ltd.	261.40	0.55
Grasim Ind	2805.90	-11.70
HCL Tech	1725.90	14.00
HDFC Bank	1989.30	2.20
HDFC Life	785.10	-0.75
Hero MotoCorp	4345.00	34.40
Hindalco	699.45	6.60
Hind Unilever	2339.30	25.90
ICICI Bank	1442.80	16.90
IndusInd Bank	856.25	-6.15
Infosys	1640.70	22.00
ITC	412.55	-0.80
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	324.95	-0.10
JSW Steel	1041.40	-4.70
Kotak Bank	2129.80	3.20
L&T	3594.60	11.70
M&M	3162.50	-11.90
Maruti Suzuki	12646.00	-106.00
NestleIndia	2392.80	4.40
NTPC	335.50	0.90
ONGC	245.24	1.19
PowerGrid Corp	294.00	0.30
Reliance Ind	1527.30	9.50
SBI Life	1799.70	-10.50
State Bank	811.85	4.75
Shriram Finance Ltd.	676.15	0.75
Sun Pharma	1676.30	-3.40
TataConsumerProduct	1089.70	0.30
Tata Motors	689.05	-1.35
Tata Steel	163.01	-2.90
TCS	3419.80	19.00
Tech Mahindra	1655.20	-16.70
Titan	3686.90	8.20
Trent Ltd.	5456.00	-735.00
UltraTech Cement	12506.00	108.00
Wipro	270.05	3.00

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 04

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.19	85.51
Euro	100.36	100.74
British Pound	116.37	116.82
Japanese Yen (100)	59.03	59.26
Chinese Yuan	11.89	11.94
Swiss Franc	107.37	107.79
Singapore Dollar	66.88	67.15
Canadian Dollar	62.67	62.93
Malaysian Ringitt	20.16	20.28
Australian Dollar	55.90	56.11

Source:Indian Bank

India unveils aluminium, copper vision documents

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The aluminium vision document aims to expand bauxite production capacity to 150 mtpa

India's aluminium vision document, outlining a roadmap to scale aluminium production six fold by 2047 was unveiled at an international conference in Hyderabad on Friday.

Also, the country's copper vision document – that anticipates a six-fold increase in demand by 2047 and calls for addition of 5 million tonnes smelting and refining capacity by 2030 – was unveiled.

These were aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047 and lays the foundation for a globally competitive and environmentally responsible aluminium industry and a sustainable, resilient and future-ready copper ecosystem, Union Coal and Mines Minister G. Kishan Reddy – who unveiled the documents at the conference organised by the Indian National Committee of the World Mining Congress – said in a release.

India aims to expand bauxite production capacity to 150 mtpa; double aluminium recycling rate; promote adoption of low-carbon technologies and strengthen raw material security through targeted policy reforms and institutional mechanisms.

The Minister also highlighted the aluminium sector's role in enabling clean energy systems, electric mobility, and modern infrastructure. Both vision documents are an outcome of extensive consultations with industry stakeholders.

While India is the world's second largest producer of aluminium, it accounts for just 6% of global production, highlighting untapped potential for the country, states the vision document. The copper vision document provides a long-term strategy to meet growing domestic demand while ensuring raw material security, the Minister said, emphasising copper's vital contribution to India's energy transition, infrastructure growth, and green technologies such as EVs and solar power.

It anticipates a six fold increase in copper demand by 2047 and outlines plans to add 5 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) of smelting and refining capacity by 2030.

It focuses on scaling up secondary refining, enhancing domestic recycling, and reducing dependence on open-market imports by securing overseas mineral assets through global partnerships, Ministry of Mines said in release.

Aluminium producer Vedanta, in a release, welcomed the aluminium vision document as a pivotal step in charting the sector's future.

SEBI bans Jane Street over ₹4,843 crore 'unlawful earnings'

U.S.-based investment firm under scanner for manipulating index to make illegal gains with 'aggressive' buying, selling of Bank Nifty stocks

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has barred U.S.-based investment firm Jane Street from its securities markets for allegedly manipulating the stock index and unlawfully earning ₹4,843 crore.

JSI Investments, JSI2 Investments, Jane Street Singapore, and Jane Street Asia Trading, all part of the Jane Street Group, manipulated Bank Nifty – the index which has 12 bank stocks – and unlawfully gained a total of ₹4,843.6 crore, according to SEBI.

"JS Group first aggressively bought significant quantities of Bank Nifty underlying constituent stocks and futures, temporarily pushing up or lending considerable support to the Bank Nifty index. In the second patch of the day, as has again been demonstrated by data and analysis, J.S. Group was seen to practically and effectively reverse all of this buying activity from the first patch, by aggressively selling large quantities of Bank Nifty underlying constituent stocks and futures," SEBI's whole time member G. Ananth Narayan said in his order on Thursday.

Explaining the modus operandi of the violation in granular detail and backed by data, the capital markets regulator said it found that the Jane Street Group was "aggressively buying ₹4,370.03 crore of Bank Nifty stocks and futures." This was also a sizeable part of the total transaction of the market. The purchase took place on a day when the index was falling, raising suspicions.

The action escalated the prices of Bank Nifty stocks and effectively the index, SEBI said in the order.

While small investors were misled by this trade, Jane Street built trades of ₹32,114.96 crore of bearish positions in the more-liquid Bank Nifty index options. It bought cheap put options and sold expensive call options, SEBI said.

The group then reversed and sold all future positions that it had taken, booking losses. This aggressive selling pushed prices down. The loss was compensated by the profit Jane Street had booked in the positions it had taken in Bank Nifty index options, the regulator said.

"It appears that the incorporation of the aforesaid company in India enabled the J.S. Group to get around the regulatory prohibition against cash market transactions, which solely applied to FPIs, (foreign portfolio investments) and thereby execute the manipulative scheme without specifically flouting the FPI regulations," Mr. Narayan wrote.

SEBI ordered the group open an escrow account in a scheduled commercial bank to transfer the money unlawfully earned, and directed banks, depositories and other market institutions not to make debits in the accounts of Jane Street without its permission.

The group's entities have been given 21 days from the receipt of the circular to respond.

Modus operandi

SEBI detected Jane Street's aggressive buying of ₹4,370.03 crore of Bank Nifty stocks and futures

- While small investors were misled by the above trade, Jane Street built ₹32,114.96 crore of bearish positions
- It bought cheap put options and sold expensive call options; aggressive selling pushed prices down
- Loss was compensated by the profit Jane Street booked in the positions it had taken in Bank Nifty index options

INBRIEF

Tata Steel gets ₹1,902-cr. notice over 'shortfall' in dispatch

Tata Steel on Friday said it had received a demand notice of ₹1,902 crore from Deputy Director of Mines in Jajpur for alleged shortfall in dispatch of minerals from its Sukinda Chromite Block in Odisha. In a filing, the steel maker said it will pursue suitable legal remedies before the appropriate judicial or quasi-judicial forums. As per the notice, the revision in assessment is based on declaration of average sale price notified by the Indian Bureau of Mines. PTI

Toyota opens Maharashtra base to set up greenfield unit

Toyota Kirloskar Motor has opened base at Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar in Maharashtra by inaugurating a city office towards commitment to open a greenfield factory in the State. "The office will serve as a critical hub for advancing TKM's regional operations and reinforcing its long-term commitment to industrial development with focus on sustainability, creation of skilled manpower and jobs, and giving back to society across Maharashtra," the company said.

Nasscom to launch U.S. CEO Forum to strengthen tech ties

Nasscom, India's apex tech body, will convene the U.S. CEO Forum at the Consulate General of India in New York on July 9. The forum would bring together leading Indian tech CEOs and influential U.S. stakeholders to drive high-level strategic dialogue across innovation, enterprise, policy, and talent development, Nasscom said on Friday. The forum aims to elevate India-U.S. tech ties by convening a cross-section of leaders from government, industry, and the Indian diaspora.

'Cartelisation': CCI calls for records from UltraTech, Dalmia

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The investigation found the companies engaged in anti-competitive collusion.

Fair trade regulator CCI has directed Aditya Birla firm UltraTech, which now owns South-based cement firm India Cements, along with two other cement makers and their executives to submit financial documents, after its Director General, in an investigations, found contravention of competition norms.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) also directed Dalmia Bharat Cements and Shree Digvijay Cements to submit audited financial statements, including balance sheets and profit and loss accounts, in eight weeks of the order.

It directed UltraTech to submit the financial statements of its subsidiary India Cements for five years from FY15 to FY19 and Dalmia Bharat Cements and Shree Digvijay Cements for nine years, viz. FY11-FY19.

Besides, CCI has also directed their executives to submit detailed financials and income tax records for five years, along with formal responses to the investigation report. An email sent to UltraTech Cements remained unanswered till the time of filing the story.

Dalmia Bharat, in a regulatory filing, said CCI is yet to hear it in the matter or pass any formal order.

"DCBL remains committed to full regulatory compliance and cooperating with authorities," it said.

'Tender cartelisation'

The CCI direction came over a complaint filed by ONGC alleging cartelisation in its tenders. Following this, the fair trade regulator had on November 18, 2020, directed its probe unit Director General to look into the issue.

The DG submitted its investigation report on February 18, which found contraventions of the competition regulations.

It had found Ultratech's subsidiary India Cements, along with Shree Digvijay Cement and Dalmia Cement, with a middleman named Umakant Agarwal, engaged in anti-competitive collusion.

Later, CCI on May 26, 2025, considered the investigation report and in a four-page order also directed the cement manufacturer to submit income derived from sales to alleged contraventions by the PSU.

The CCI notice also mentioned if there is non-furnishing of the financial details or incomplete/false information, within the time frame by the firms, they would be liable under section 45 of the Act.

In December 2024, UltraTech Cements had acquired 32.72% stake from promoters and promoter group entities of India Cements Ltd. The Aditya Birla Group firm, which already had acquired 22.77% stake from the market, became the promoter of the Tamil Nadu-based firm.

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर
क्रमांक: 4396 दिनांक: 20.06.2025
निविदा सूचना संख्या: 11 वर्ष 2025-26
NIB No. PWD2526A1492
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से विभिन्न नॉन पेचेबल / मिसिंग लिंक सड़कों के निर्माण कार्य हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग / डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ईटेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट **http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in** व **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** व **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।

1. PWD2526WSOB05224	2. PWD2526WSOB05226	3. PWD2526WSOB05229
4. PWD2526WLOB05230	5. PWD2526WLOB05231	6. PWD2526WSOB05233
7. PWD2526WSOB05234	8. PWD2526WSOB05238	9. PWD2526WSOB05240
10. PWD2526WSOB05242	11. PWD2526WSOB05244	12. PWD2526WSOB05246
13. PWD2526WSOB05247	14. PWD2526WSOB05248	15. PWD2526WLOB05249

DIPR/C/8707/2025
ई-साईन, (नेमी चन्द शर्मा)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HIDCO
West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–186/1/HIDCO/Admn-4357/2025 Date 02.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction
E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 0.132 ACRES (534.20 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. BD-38/1 IN ACTION AREA I OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "COMMERCIAL" PURPOSE. (2nd Call)
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4819] dtd. 02.07.2025

PLOT NO.	PLOT SIZE	E-AUCTION DATE	LAST DATE OF APPLICATION
PLOT NO. BD-38/1 IN ACTION AREA I OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA	0.132 Acres	12.08.2025	04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs.

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038
ICA-T13841(4)/2025

MSME Technology Development Centre
Process & Product Development Centre, Agra
An Autonomous body under Ministry of MSME, Govt of India
Foundry Nagar, Agra - 282006 (U.P.)
Extension Centre Thiruvalla Organizes
Advanced Hands on Program in
AI Driven Cybersecurity
Date: 14th To 25th July 2025, Time: 07:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Only on Weekdays (Monday - Friday) | Mode:Online
COURSE CONTENT • AI in modern cybersecurity • NLP for Threat Intelligence • ML & Deep learning for threat Detection • Case Studies & Industry Applications • Capstone Project • AI in SOC Automation & SIEM • Adversarial Attacks & AI Model Security
Course Fees: ₹4720/- (Inclusive of GST)
For More Details
9944971623, 8129988725
Scan QR for Online Registration.
CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HIDCO
West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–188/1/HIDCO/Admn-4359/2025 Date 02.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction
E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 0.346 ACRES (1400.24 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IIB-98/1 IN ACTION AREA II OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL" PURPOSE. (2nd Call)
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4821] dtd. 02.07.2025

PLOT NO.	PLOT SIZE	E-AUCTION DATE	LAST DATE OF APPLICATION
PLOT NO. IIB-98/1 IN ACTION AREA II OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA	0.346 Acres	12.08.2025	04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs.

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038
ICA- T13843(4)/2025

E-mail:- acezljpr.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PWD ZONE-I JAIPUR
PWD Campus, Jacob Road, Infront of Jaipur Club, Jaipur (O) 0141-2223525
No.: ACE-I/Zone-I/NIT No. 07/2025-26/D-809 Date: 24.06.2025
NOTICE INVITING BID
CM Budget Announcement 2025-26 road work (01 No.) of Sikar District is invited from interested bidders from dated 26.06.2025 at 09:30 AM upto dated 18.07.2025 at 06:00 PM, other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state; and pwd.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 1202.00 lacs**

S. No.	District	Name Of Work	UBN No.
1	Sikar	सीकर के सबलपुरा स्टेण्ड से भढाढर तिराहे तक विधमान टू-लेन सड़क से फोरलेन सड़क निर्माण एवं अन्य कार्य	PWD2526 WLOB05535

(Anupam Gupta)
DIPR/C/8912/2025 Additional Chief Engineer, PWD Zone-I Jaipur

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
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Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines).
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
252613 002384	Procurement of Hydrogen Peroxide 50% for Unit-I & Unit-II.	17.07.2025
252613 001927	Procurement of Imported Furnace Oil for Unit-I & Unit-II.	18.07.2025
Email	252613002384 - purchase.rawmatl@tnpl.co.in 252613001927 - purchase.pulp@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
DIPR/3392/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र, बीकानेर
फोन 0151-2226451 ईमेल rj_acebi@nic.in
क्रमांक: अति/बी/अंके.बी / 2025-26/2878-2905 दिनांक:- 22/06/25
ई-बोली सूचना संख्या अमुअ/बी/2025-26/02-03
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल की ओर से निम्न हस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिक विभाग एवं अन्य विभागों में सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नानुसार ई-बोली द्वारा बोली आमंत्रित की जाती है। बोली प्रपत्र वेबसाईट **"www.phedwater.rajasthan.gov.in"**, "www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in" एवं http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर दिनांक 23.06.2025 सुबह 09.00 बजे से 14.07.2025 सांय 6.00 बजे तक उपलब्ध हैं। इस निविदा सूचना संख्या **ACEBI/2025-26/02-03** में कुल 02 कार्य है, जिनकी कुल अनुमानित लागत रु. 558.81 लाख है। इन निविदाओं के एसपीपी पोर्टल पर यूबीएन नम्बर क्रमशः **UBN No. PHE2526WSOB03964, PHE2526WSOB03965** है।
(राजेश पुरोहित) अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
DIPR/C/8743/2025 जन स्वा.अभि. विभाग, क्षेत्र-बीकानेर

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
IRRIGATION & CAD DEPARTMENT
IRRIGATION CIRCLE, HILL COLONY, NALGONDA DISTRICT
Tender is invited by Irrigation Circle, Hill Colony, Nalgonda District vide Notice No: **13/SE/ICHC/2025-26 Dated: 04.07.2025** requesting for proposals for the work of "Design, Procurement, supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Tower Cranes 4 Nos of 25 Mtr height, 75 Mtr Boom length with Tip load of 1.7 TC as per the approved drawing, at the required locations duly assessing the strength of the piers, including drilling of holes on the piers, providing & fixing of foundation bolts, grouting of foundation bolts with cost of all materials, labours & Machinery etc., complete for finished item of work with all lead and lifts & all accessories to facilitate the repairs to all works over the Spillway Glacis of Nagarjunasagar Dam, Nalgonda District, Telangana State." You are requested to visit Nagarjunasagar Dam and go through the detailed specifications for repair of the spillway at the Nagarjunasagar Dam and submit the quoted rates for individual cranes including all taxes, transport charges and any other incidental charges etc., the sealed quotations should reach this office **on or before 31.07.2025 at 4.00 PM.** For any other information please contact **+917075238444 or +917702023031.**
Date: 04-07-2025 Sd/- B.V. Mallikarjuna Rao,
Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Circle,
DIPR R.O.No.4580-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 04.07.2025 Hill Colony.

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन, राजस्थान
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग, स्वास्थ्य भवन, तिलक मार्ग, राजस्थान, जयपुर फोन न. 0141-2225736, E-Mail ID: cemhraj@gmail.com
क्रमांक: 1299 दिनांक: 23-06-25
ई-निविदा सूचना संख्याः 11/2025-26
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से पोस्ट क्वालिफिकेशन पद्धति से चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य विभाग में 02 निर्माण कार्यो राशि रु. 5647.00 लाख हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग / राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत अनुभवी संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण DIPR की वेब साईट **www.dipronline.Org, www.sppp.raj.nic.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** व विभागीय वेब साईट **http://rajswasthya.nic.in** पर देखा जा सकता है।
UBN:-
1. MHS 2526 WLOB02254
2. MHS2526WLOB02253
DIPR/C/8855/2025
मुख्य अभियंता
चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य
राजस्थान, जयपुर

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER WATER RESOURCES ZONE, JAIPUR
Sinchai Bhavan, J.L.N. marg, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur. E-mail-acejpr.wr@gmail.com
No.-F(390)/ACE/JPR/Acctts/2025-26/1442 Date: 24/6/25
e-NIB No- 10/2025-26
On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, bids are invited from eligible bidders for the work of "Repair and Renovation of Right Main Canal and Left Main Canal of Bisalpur Project and its various Minors Canal system complete, Tonk - Estimated value of work is Rs. 8418.94 Lac.
Last date of submission of Bid is 31/07/2025. Detailed Bid & Bid document can be seen on & downloaded from official website (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, & http://sppp.raj.nic.in)
NIB Code No.:-WRD2526A0191
UBN No.:- WRD2526WLOB00546 Additional Chief Engineer
DIPR/C/8947/2025 WRD, Zone Jaipur

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HIDCO
West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–187/1/HIDCO/Admn-4358/2025 Date 02.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction
E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 0.165 ACRES (667.74 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. AA-89/02 IN ACTION AREA I OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "EDUCATIONAL / COMMERCIAL" PURPOSE. (2nd Call).
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4820] dtd. 02.07.2025

PLOT NO.	PLOT SIZE	E-AUCTION DATE	LAST DATE OF APPLICATION
PLOT NO. AA-89/02 IN ACTION AREA I OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA	0.165 Acres	12.08.2025	04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs.

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038
ICA- T13842(4)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HIDCO
West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–185/1/HIDCO/Admn-4354/2025 Date 02.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction
E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 1.32 ACRES (5342 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. III/OP-10 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / MIXED" USE PURPOSE. (2nd Call)
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4818] dtd. 02.07.2025

PLOT NO.	PLOT SIZE	E-AUCTION DATE	LAST DATE OF APPLICATION
PLOT NO. III/OP-10 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA	1.32 Acres	12.08.2025	04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs.

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038
ICA-T13844(4)/2025

DELHI TRANSCO LIMITED
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS
Delhi Transco Ltd (A Government of NCT of Delhi Undertaking) invites online two part Domestic Competitive Biddings(DCB) for the following work:
Tender No. T25P090641 : Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 220kV and 66kV C&R panel with associated accessories and complete substation automation work for 220kV substation Mehrauli on turnkey basis.
For complete details of the tender please visit following websites :-
https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in (Tender ID No. 2025_DTL_274827_1) and www.dtl.gov.in (Unique No. DTL-9664-040725)
Last date for bid submission: 21.08.2025 at 1:30 P.M.
All corrigendum, addendum, amendments, time extensions, clarifications etc. to this e-tender will be hosted on the above website only. Bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated.

BERLIN

Germany considering buying U.S. air defence systems for Ukraine

AP

Germany was exploring the possibility of purchasing more Patriot air defence systems from the U.S. for Ukraine, a government spokesman said on Friday. Media reports previously stated that German Chancellor Friedrich Merz had raised the issue in a telephone call with U.S. President Donald Trump on Thursday. AFP

KARACHI

Seven dead, eight injured after building collapses in Pakistan

REUTERS

A multi-storey residential building collapsed in Pakistan's port city of Karachi on Friday, killing at least seven persons and wounding eight others. The five-storey building — built in 1974 — was on the list of dilapidated buildings in the old areas of Karachi. Officials say more people are feared to be trapped under the debris. PTI

LONDON

Jeremy Corbyn, former Labour leader, in talks to start new party

REUTERS

Former leader of Britain's Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn, announced he was in talks to start a new political party because Keir Starmer's government had "refused to deliver the change" voters expected. Mr. Corbyn was expelled from the party over how complaints about anti-semitism were handled under his leadership. REUTERS

LOS ANGELES

Michael Madsen, *Reservoir Dogs* and *Kill Bill* actor, dies at 67

REUTERS

U.S. actor Michael Madsen — best known for his frequent collaborations with director Quentin Tarantino including *Reservoir Dogs* and *Kill Bill* — died on Thursday at age 67 after suffering cardiac arrest, his management team said. The actor was found unresponsive early on Thursday at his home in Malibu. AFP

Kyiv struck by Russia's largest aerial assault since the start of Ukraine war

Moscow launches 550 drones and 11 missiles, injuring 23 people and inflicting severe damage across multiple districts of the capital in a seven-hour onslaught; Trump holds telephone conversation with Putin but to no avail in terms of ceasefire

Associated Press
KYIV

Waves of drone and missile attacks targeted Kyiv overnight into Friday in the largest aerial assault since Russia's invasion of Ukraine began more than three years ago, officials said, amid a renewed Russian push to capture more of its neighbour's land.

The barrage injured at least 23 people and inflicted severe damage across multiple districts of the capital in a seven-hour onslaught. Blasts lit up the night sky and echoed across the city as air raid sirens wailed. "It was a harsh, sleepless night," Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said.

Plight of the elderly: Witnesses said the blasts lit up the night sky and echoed across the Ukrainian capital as air raid sirens wailed. AFP

Russia launched 550 drones and missiles across Ukraine during the night, the country's air force said. The majority were Shahed drones, but Russia also launched 11 missiles in the attack.

The attack on Kyiv began the same day a phone call took place between U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin. Mr. Zelenskyy called the timing of the strikes a deliberate signal that Moscow has no intention of ending the war.

Mr. Trump said he would call Mr. Zelenskyy on Friday.

Ukrainian officials and the Russian Defence Ministry said another prisoner swap took place on Friday, though neither side said how many soldiers were involved. Mr. Zelenskyy said most of the Ukrainians had been in Russian captivity since 2022. The Ukrainian soldiers were classified as "wounded and seriously ill."

When asked if he made any progress during his call with Mr. Putin on a deal to end the fighting in Ukraine, Mr. Trump said: "No, I didn't make any progress with him today at all."

"I'm very disappointed with the conversation I had today with President Putin because I don't think he's there. I don't think he's looking to stop (the fighting), and that's too bad," Mr. Trump said.

Russia becomes first nation to recognise Taliban regime

Associated Press
MOSCOW

Russia on Thursday became the first country to formally recognise the Taliban's government in Afghanistan since it seized power in 2021, after Moscow removed the group from its list of outlawed organisations.

The Russian Foreign Ministry announced that it had received credentials from Afghanistan's newly appointed Ambassador Gul Hassan Hassan. The official recognition of the Afghan government will foster "productive bilateral cooperation," the Ministry said in a statement.

Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry called it a historic step, and quoted Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi as welcoming the decision as "a good example for other countries."

Signs of legitimacy: An official stands near the flag of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan at the Afghan embassy in Moscow. AFP

Chinese nod

Meanwhile, China said on Friday it welcomed Russia's decision.

"As a traditional friendly neighbour of Afghanistan, the Chinese side has always believed that Afghanistan should not be excluded from the international community," foreign ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said.

China does not officially recognise the government but hosts a Taliban Ambassador in Beijing.

China imposes anti-dumping duties on European brandy

Associated Press
BEIJING

The tariffs will range from 27.7% to 34.9% and will be in place for five years and not applied retroactively

China on Friday imposed anti-dumping duties on European brandy, most notably cognac produced in France, as trade tensions between Beijing and United States allies continue to rise.

The tariffs, effective on Saturday, will range from 27.7% to 34.9%, China's Commerce Ministry said. They are to be in place for five years and will not be applied retroactively.

The announcement came during a European visit by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi aimed at ironing out trade differences. Mr. Wang was set to visit Paris after stops in Brussels and Berlin.

The anti-dumping duties are the result of a probe China launched last year into European cognac, after the European Union undertook a probe into Chinese electric vehicles subsidies.

UN records more than 600 killings near aid centres, humanitarian convoys in Gaza

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

The UN human rights office says it has recorded 613 killings in Gaza near humanitarian convoys and as Palestinians try to reach aid at distribution points run by an Israeli-backed American organisation since it first began operations in late May.

Spokeswoman Ravina Shamdasani said the rights office was not able to attribute responsibility for the killings. But she said "it is clear that the Israeli military has shelled and shot at Palestinians trying to reach the distribution points" operated by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation.

Targeted approach: The UN says it has recorded 509 killings near the Israeli-backed U.S.-run Gaza Humanitarian Foundation. AFP

Ms. Shamdasani said that of the total tallied, 509 killings were "GHF-related," meaning at or near its distribution sites.

"Information keeps coming in," she added. "This is ongoing and it is unacceptable."

Ms. Shamdasani originally told the UN briefing that the killings were recorded both at GHF sites and near humanitarian convoys. She later clarified that the killings in the vicinity of GHF distribution points were "at or near their distribution sites."

Meanwhile, Israeli air strikes killed 15 Palestinians in Gaza early on Friday, while a hospital said another 20 people died in shootings while waiting for aid.

Of the 15 Palestinians killed in Friday's strikes, eight were women and one was a child, the hospital said. The strikes hit the Mawasi area, where many displaced Palestinians are sheltering in tents.

Pakistan Army says it killed '30 militants' at Afghan border

Agence France-Presse
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Army said on Friday it had killed 30 militants attempting to cross the border from Afghanistan over the last three days, after a suicide attack killed 16 soldiers in the same region.

The militants belonged to the Pakistan Taliban or its affiliated groups, the military said in a statement accusing India of backing them.

"The security forces prevented a potential catastrophe," it said. "A large quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives was also recovered," the statement added.

The killings took place in the border district of North Waziristan, where last week a faction of the Pakistan Taliban claimed a suicide blast on the military.

Islamabad has routinely blamed its western neighbour Afghanistan for allowing militant groups to operate on its soil, but in recent months it has also ramped up accusations against India to its east for backing the groups.

Both neighbours deny any involvement.

Sport

Consistent Gukesh seals top spot in rapid section

CHESS

Press Trust of India
ZAGREB

D. Gukesh took the honours in the rapid section in the 2025 SuperUnited Rapid & Blitz Croatia in the nation's capital on Friday, with Poland's Jan-Krzysztof Duda finishing second.

The reigning World Champion, who had registered five consecutive wins including one against Magnus Carlsen on Thursday to storm into the sole lead, drew in the seventh and eighth rounds with Anish Giri and Ivan Saric respectively before beating Wesley So in the last round to finish with 14 points out of a possible 18.

Duda scored 11 points to secure the second spot, while Carlsen with 10 finished third. The other Indian in the fray, R. Praggnanandhaa, totalled nine points to share fourth place with Fabiano Caruana.

On a roll: Gukesh pulled off six wins after an opening round setback. FLICKR/GRANDCHESSTOUR

Meanwhile, Carlsen, who has never minced his words and has been a critic of Gukesh in the faster version of the game, was all praise for young Indian after the loss on Thursday.

"He's doing incredibly well now (in the format). Winning five games in a row is no mean feat," said Carlsen.

"I have played kind of poorly the whole tournament and this time I got soundly punished. All credit to Gukesh."

Carlsen later lamented that he was struggling to enjoy chess.

No joy

"Honestly, I am not enjoying playing chess at all right now. I just, I don't feel any flow at all when I'm playing.

"I'm constantly hesitating and it's just really poor right now," said Carlsen in an interview after the loss.

The blitz section will take place this weekend, on July 5 and 6.

The player with the most points combined at the end of the final day will win the overall title.

Final rapid standings (after round 9): 1. D. Gukesh 14; 2. Jan-Krzysztof Duda 11; 3. Magnus Carlsen 10; 4-5. R. Praggnanandhaa, Fabiano Caruana 9; 6-8. Anish Giri, Alireza Firouzja, Wesley So 8; 9. Ivan Saric 7; 10. Nodirbek Abdusattorov 6.

Fortunate Son primed to deliver in Veterinarian's Trophy

RACING

BENGALURU: Fortunate Son, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the Veterinarian's Trophy (1,400m), the main event of the races to be held here on Saturday (July 5). False rails (width about 5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 GALILEE PLATE (1,800m), rated 20 to 45, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Wolf Creek (6) P. Vikram 60, 2. Dr Ash (7) M. Rajesh K 58, 3. Bruce Almighty (5) Bhawani S 57.5, 4. Star Honour (1) R. Vaibhav 57, 5. Ksepiman (2) G. Vivek 54, 6. Assurances (4) Akshay K 53.5 and 7. Thrill Of Brazil (3) Jagadeesh 52.5.

1. ASSURANCES, 2. THRILL OF BRAZIL, 3. WOLF CREEK

2 FIRE HAVEN PLATE (1,600m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-30: 1. Machiavellian (1) A. Prakash 56, 2. Mighty Hero (3) C. Umesh 56, 3. Star Studded (6) Suraj 56, 4. Tolkien (7) Antony 56, 5. Vortex Wind (5) B. Dharshan 56, 6. Zeppelin (2) R. Vaibhav 56, 7. Best Of Us (8) P. Tejeshwar 54.5 and 8. Miracle Star (4) Trevor 54.5.

1. MIRACLE STAR, 2. TOLKIEN, 3. STAR STUDDED

3 BASQUE PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 3-00: 1. Anzac Parade (4) Tousif 60, 2. Resplendence (2) A.A. Vikrant 60, 3. Stravinsky (6) Angad 60, 4. Super Kind (5) C.A. Brisson 59, 5. Golden Beast (7) Afsar 58, 6. Honest Desire (3) Antony 58, 7. Mega Success (8) Jagadeesh 58 and 8. Lorven's Glory (1) M. Rajesh K 55.5.

1. RESPLENDENCE, 2. MEGA SUCCESS, 3. STRAVINSKY

4 D.M. KUMARASWAMY MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,600m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Thundering Phoenix (4) Antony 60, 2. Elfin Knight (6) Sandesh 58, 3. Scarlette Lady (2) Akshay K 58, 4. Gordon (5) A.A. Vikrant 56, 5. Dufy (7) Tauseef 53.5, 6. Disruptor (3) A. Ramu 52, 7. Dubai Touch (1) A. Prakash 50 and 8. Grenoble (8) Mustakim Alam 50.

1. THUNDERING PHOENIX, 2. ELFIN KNIGHT, 3. GRENOBLE

5 VETERINARIAN'S TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 4-00: 1. Crosswater (6) Pavan 61.5, 2. Asagiri (4) Shezad Khan 61, 3. Fortunate Son (8) P.P. Dhebe 59.5, 4. True Faith (1) Vishwa V 59, 5. Golden Time (2) Koshi K 58, 6. Free To Play (5) C. Umesh 56.5, 7. Super Sapphire (9) M. Prabhakaran 54.5, 8. Armory (3) Angad 53.5 and 9. The Strikingly (7) P. Sai Kumar 53.

1. FORTUNATE SON, 2. CROSSWATER, 3. TRUE FAITH

6 SKYLINE PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 4-30: 1. Star Serenade (6) N. Darashan 62.5, 2. Chinky Pinky (1) Shivam 61.5, 3. DR Colchester (5) Arjun 61, 4. Star Symphony (9) Afsar 60.5, 5. Posthaste (7) B. Dharshan 59.5, 6. Daiki (2) M. Rajesh K 59, 7. N R I Jetpower (8) Rayan 58, 8. Southernaristocrat (4) C. Umesh 58 and 9. Quevega (3) Angad 53.5.

1. STAR SERENADE, 2. N R I JETPOWER, 3. CHINKY PINKY

7 BASQUE PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Flash (2) Rayan 62.5, 2. Eastern Gold (4) Akshay K 61.5, 3. Felisa (8) Pavan 61, 4. Master Way (5) Vinod Shinde 59, 5. Roadrunner (3) Vishal Bunde 56.5, 6. Able One (1) Salman Khan 56, 7. Ransomware (6) M. Rajesh K 55 and 8. Royal Deccan (7) Antony 53.5.

1. EASTERN GOLD, 2. ROYAL DECCAN, 3. MASTER WAY

Day's best: EASTERN GOLD

Double: MIRACLE STAR — THUNDERING PHOENIX

Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

ON FIRE

Siraj joins elite Indian club with his fourth five-for overseas

GETTY IMAGES

All four of Mohammed Siraj's Test five-fors have come overseas. He is the seventh Indian pacer (after Kapil Dev, Zaheer Khan, Venkatesh Prasad, Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma and Javagal Srinath) to take a five-wicket haul in four or more countries. Siraj's six for 70 is his second best in a Test innings (six for 15, Cape Town, 2024).

EERILY SIMILAR

The tale of six ducks and two centuries in a Test innings

REUTERS

The six ducks for England is its most in a Test innings. This is only the second time a team had six ducks and two tons in the same innings. On both occasions, a wicketkeeper hit a century and Nos. 5 and 7 crossed the three-figure mark (six ducks; Mushfiqur Rahim (175) and 'keeper Litton Das (141), Bangladesh vs SL, 2022, Mirpur).

SITTING PRETTY

Australia takes control of second Test against West Indies

AFP

West Indies was struggling at 185 for seven at tea on the second day of the second Test against Australia at Grenada on Friday. Australia was dismissed for 286 on day one. **The scores:** Australia 286 in 66.5 overs (Webster 60, Carey 63, Alzarri Joseph 4/61) vs West Indies 185/7 in 52 overs (Campbell 40, King 75).

APPLYING THE BRAKES

India restricts England to 171 after Dunkley and Wyatt-Hodge's stand

REUTERS

Arundhati Reddy and Deepti Sharma's three-wicket hauls helped India restrict England to 171 for nine in the third T20I at The Oval on Friday. The host was cruising at 137 for no loss at one stage. **The scores:** England 171/9 in 20 overs (Dunkley 75, Wyatt-Hodge 66, Arundhati 3/32, Deepti 3/27, Shree Charani 2/43) vs India.

Siraj, Akash strike back after the Brook-Smith show

The 303-run sixth-wicket stand lifts England before the two Indian seamers trigger a collapse with the second new ball; the visitors swell the lead to 244 with nine wickets in hand at close on day three

INDIA IN ENGLAND

N. Sudarshan
BIRMINGHAM

Notwithstanding a first-rate counter-attack from England that oozed Bazball right through, India ended day three of the second Test at Edgbaston 244 runs in the green.

The visitors restricted England to 407 to secure a 180-run lead, and then reached 64 for one at stumps, with K.L. Rahul (28 batting, 38b, 6x4) and Karun Nair (7 batting, 18b, 1x4) at the crease.

England's innings was propped by a superlative 303-run partnership for the sixth wicket (368b) between Harry Brook (158, 234b, 17x4, 1x6) and Jamie Smith (184 n.o., 207b, 21x4, 4x6).

For India, Mohammed Siraj and Akash Deep excelled, picking up six for 70 and four for 88 respectively. Though England can claim to have won two of Friday's three sessions, the pace duo ensured India would be the happier unit going into day four.

Showstoppers: Brook and Smith feasted on the Indian bowlers to stage a spectacular recovery for the home side before Siraj's six-wicket haul put India on top. GETTY IMAGES & AP

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS
587 in 151 overs.

ENGLAND — 1ST INNINGS
Zak Crawley c Karun b Siraj 19 *(30b, 3x4)*, Ben Duckett c Gill b Akash 0 *(5b)*, Ollie Pope c Rahul b Akash 0 *(1b)*, Joe Root c Pant b Siraj 22 *(46b, 2x4)*, Harry Brook b Akash 158 *(234b, 17x4, 1x6)*, Ben Stokes c Pant b Siraj 0 *(1b)*, Jamie Smith (not out) 184 *(207b, 21x4, 4x6)*, Chris Woakes c Karun b Akash 5 *(17b, 1x4)*, Brydon Carse lbw b Siraj 0 *(4b)*, Josh Tongue lbw b Siraj 0 *(2b)*, Shoaib Bashir b Siraj 0 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-5, nb-12, w-2): 19; Total (in 89.3 overs): 407.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-13 (Duckett, 2.4 overs), 2-13 (Pope, 2.5), 3-25 (Crawley, 7.1), 4-84 (Root, 21.3), 5-84 (Stokes, 21.4), 6-387 (Brook, 82.2), 7-395 (Woakes, 86.5), 8-396 (Carse, 87.5), 9-407 (Tongue, 89.1).

INDIA BOWLING
Akash 20-2-88-4, Siraj 19.3-3-70-6, Prasidh 13-1-72-0, Nitish 6-0-29-0, Jadeja 17-2-70-0, Washington 14-0-73-0.

INDIA — 2ND INNINGS
Yashasvi Jaiswal lbw b Tongue 28 *(22b, 6x4)*, K.L. Rahul (batting) 28 *(38b, 6x4)*, Karun Nair (batting) 7 *(18b, 1x4)*; Extras (lb-1): 1; Total (for one wkt. in 13 overs): 64.

FALL OF WICKET
1-51 (Jaiswal, 7.4).

ENGLAND BOWLING
Woakes 5-0-28-0, Carse 5-1-23-0, Tongue 3-1-12-1.

> It was good fun to be part of a 300-run stand [303]. The way Jamie Smith put pressure on India was superb. It felt like he could hit a boundary every ball
>
> **BROOK**

Early jolts

On the ninth ball of the morning, Siraj lured Joe Root to nick one down the leg-side, and then dismissed captain Ben Stokes first ball with a nasty bouncer. Then, after tea, the pair dazzled with the second new ball, excising the last five English batters for just 20 runs. The collapse was triggered by a terrific nip-backer from Akash that breached Brook's defence.

Between these two phases, England gave India an almighty scare. Ever since Brendon McCullum and Stokes came together in May 2022, England had conceded more than 550 bowling first twice – once against New Zealand (June 2022) and once versus Pakistan (October 2024) – prior to this Test.

The remarkable thing is that the Englishmen won both matches, and for a few hours, they threatened a repeat. Brook's ninth Test hundred and Smith's second came at breakneck speed, with the latter getting to 100 in under two hours.

The two accounted for the first 172 runs of their association in the opening session alone (27 overs). Then, in the sun-baked afternoon period, they added 106 at a rate of 3.78 per over, consolidating the gains.

There were three reasons for the tables to turn the way they did from 84 for five – England's fearless approach, the blandness of India's bowling attack – sans Akash and Siraj – and captain Shubman Gill's slight poverty of imagination.

After Siraj's opening burst, instead of keeping things tight, Gill asked Prasidh Krishna to bowl bouncers at Smith with a loaded leg-side field. It was a strategy that worked in Leeds, and the huge cushion of runs here meant Gill could afford that again. But the question was if it should have been his go-to ploy or a tactic of last resort.

Smith does have the propensity to sky the ball and not be dulled into withdrawing at the sight of catchers on the boundary. Unfortunately for India, he was near-perfect. Prasidh bled 50 runs from his first five overs of the morning as Smith pierced every available gap, from fine-leg to deep mid-wicket.

A flurry of boundaries off Washington Sundar and Ravindra Jadeja earned him a well-deserved century (80b). When Smith walked in, Brook was on 31 (55b).

When he reached three figures, Brook was still on 91 (126b). That didn't mean that England's white-ball leader would be denied his share of credit.

The 26-year-old tackled Jadeja particularly well, hitting him for runs all over the ground before reaching his ton by cutting Prasidh past gully. It was just that Siraj and Akash had other ideas.

'I prepare as if I'm going to play every match'

N. Sudarshan
BIRMINGHAM

Akash. GETTY IMAGES

It is a pity that someone as talented and hardworking as Aksah Deep is only a back-up seamer for India. But after a career-best four-wicket haul against England in the second Test here (four for 88), the 28-year-old Bengal bowler can hope to be in the thick of things.

Despite having made his debut more than 16 months ago, the Edgbaston Test is only the eighth of his career. But Akash denied that being in and out of the side had affected him much.

"I am not thinking like that and I will be there when the team needs me," Akash said on Friday. "I don't think that I don't have continuity in the team. I prepare as if I am going to play every match. That mindset helps."

Akash also credited pace-bowling leader Mohammed Siraj, who secured his fourth Test fifer (six for 70). The pace duo was instrumental in India gaining an upper hand on a pitch that helped the new-ball bowlers and no one else.

"We had to bowl in partnerships," Akash said. "If you notice, with the first new ball, I was attacking and Siraj was holding one end so that runs did not leak from both sides.

"I was mentally prepared for all [types] of wickets. As a bowling team, what we have in our hands is discipline. We just had to keep at it," he added.

Siegemund puts paid to Keys' hopes; Fritz advances

WIMBLEDON

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Australian Open champion Madison Keys became the latest star to crash out of Wimbledon as the American sixth seed was stunned by Laura Siegemund on Friday.

Keys slumped to a 6-3, 6-3 loss against the German World No. 104 in the third round on Court Two.

Four-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka blew a golden opportunity to reach the fourth round for the first time as the Japanese star was beaten 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 by Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova.

In the men's section, US fifth seed Taylor Fritz got the better of the 26th-seeded Spaniard Alejandro Davidovich Fokina 6-4, 6-3, 6-7(5), 6-1 and Andrey Rublev of Russia, seeded 14th, took out Frenchman Adrian Mannarino 7-5, 6-2, 6-3

Meanwhile on Thursday, World No. 1 Jannik Sinner cruised into the third round with a 6-1, 6-1, 6-3 thrashing of Australia's Aleksandar Vukic.

Fallen seeds
Men: 4-Draper, 13-Paul, 21-Machac, 25-Auger-Aliassime
Women: 6-Keys, 28-Kenin

Cilic ousts Draper

However, there was heartbreak for fourth seed Jack Draper as he crashed out to former finalist Marin Cilic.

The 36-year-old Croatian rolled back the years and blasted 53 winners in a 6-4, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4 victory.

"The emotions I'm feeling are incredible," said Cilic. "It's been a long journey but I never lost any doubt. This was a huge challenge, to come back and play at this level against Jack, in front of this crowd."

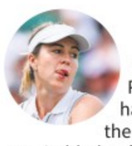
In the women's section, defending champion Barbora Krejcikova and five-time Grand Slam winner Iga Swiatek avoided joining the big name casualties with hard-fought three-set wins.

Day 5 in numbers

1 Fucsovics becomes the first lucky loser to reach the men's round-of-32 at SW19 via two five-setters

2 Anisimova, who has won the most matches (9) on grass court this season, is through to the last 16 at The Championships for only the second time

5 Kartal is the fifth British woman (after Robson, Konta, Raducanu and Watson) to reach the fourth round at Wimbledon



1 Pavlyuchenkova has made it to the second week at Wimbledon for the first time since 2016 and just the second time in 16 attempts

6 **Siegemund** is the sixth player (after King, Wade, Navratilova, Venus and Serena) to reach the round-of-16 at Wimbledon after turning 37

9 Pavlyuchenkova (2016-2025) has equalled Teeguarden's record (1972-1981) for the biggest gap between her first two round-of-16 appearances at SW19

91 Sinner trails only Borg (91.9%) for winning percentage while holding the World No. 1 ranking

1 Sierra is the first lucky loser to reach the women's singles fourth round at Wimbledon

* All stats pertain to the Open Era

SATURDAY'S PICKS

WOMEN
7-Andreeva vs Baptiste
8-Swiatek vs Collins
10-Navarro vs 17-Krejcikova
11-Rybakina vs 23-Tauson
16-Kasatkina vs 19-Samsonova

MEN
1-Sinner vs Martinez
6-Djokovic vs Kecmanovic
10-Shelton vs Fucsovics
11-de Minaur vs Holmgren
15-Mensic vs 22-Cobolli

COMPILED BY ANIRUDH VELAMURI

IMPORTANT RESULTS

Men: Third round: 5-Fritz (USA) bt 26-Fokina (Esp) 6-4, 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-1; 14-Rublev (Rus) bt Mannarino (Fra) 7-5, 6-2, 6-3.

Second round: 10-Shelton (USA) bt Hijikata (Aus) 6-2, 7-5, 6-4; 1-Sinner (Ita) bt Vukic (Aus) 6-1, 6-1, 6-3; Holmgren (Den) bt 21-Machac (Cze) 7-6(5), 6-7(8), 6-7(5), 7-5, 7-6 [10-5]; 26-Fokina (Esp) bt van de Zandschulp (Ned) 6-1, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(5); Struff (Ger) bt 25-Auger-Aliassime (Can) 3-6, 7-6(9), 6-3, 6-4; Ofner (Aut) bt 13-Paul (USA) 1-6, 7-5, 6-4, 7-5; Cilic (Cro) bt 4-Draper (GBr) 6-4, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4.

Doubles: First round: Romios (Aus) & Seggerman (USA) bt Kadhe (Ind) & Kopriva (Cze) 6-4, 6-4.

Women: Third round: Pavlyuchenkova (Rus) bt Osaka (Jpn), 3-6, 6-4, 6-4; 13-Anisimova (USA) bt Galfi (Hun) 6-3, 5-7, 6-3; 30-Noskova (Cze) bt Rakhimova (Rus) 7-6 (6), 7-5; Siegemund (Ger) bt 6-Keys (USA) 6-3, 6-3.

Second round: Bouzas (Esp) bt 28-Kenin (USA) 6-1, 7-6(4); 16-Kasatkina (Aus) bt Begu (Rom) 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; 23-Tauson (Den) bt Kalinskaya (Rus) 6-3, 7-6(10).

Mixed doubles: Second round: Yuki (Ind) & Xinyu (Chn) bt Melichar-Martinez (USA) & Harrison (USA) 6-3, 1-6, 7-6(6).

INBRIEF

Panguni Tara clinches silver in weightlifting

Indian lifter Pungni Tara lifted a total of 141kg, including 60kg in snatch and 81kg in clean and jerk, to claim a silver medal in youth girls' 44kg weight category at the Asian youth and junior weightlifting championships here on Friday. The Arunachal Pradesh lifter, also earned a gold for her clean and jerk performance. Vietnam's Phuong Linh Nguyen secured the overall gold with 144kg, while Philippines' Princess Jay Ann Diaz took the bronze with 140kg.

Squash — Anahat bests Isabella to reach u-19 final

Top seed Anahat Singh of India reached the girls' u-19 final of the Asian junior individual squash championships in Gimcheon, Korea on Friday, with a 13-11, 11-6, 11-6 victory over Whitney Isabella of Malaysia. India continued its fine performance, securing four final berths and three bronze medals.

India results (semifinals): Boys: U-13: D. Ayaan bt Y. Liu (Chn) 12-10, 11-8, 7-11, 11-6; S. Muhammad (Pak) bt Amarya Bajaj 11-5, 11-1, 11-2. **U-15:** K. Nauman (Pak) bt Aryaman Singh 11-5, 11-1, 11-5. **U-17:** Aryaveer Dewan bt MNBK Aqil (Mas) 11-7, 11-3, 11-7.

Girls: U-15: Saanvi Kalanki bt Chung KY (Hkg) 11-7, 5-11, 11-8, 8-3 (retd.); **U-17:** Harleen Tan (Mas) bt Anika Dubey 11-5, 11-5, 8-11, 11-7; **U-19:** Anahat Singh bt Whitney Isabella (Mas) 13-11,11-6, 11-6.

Srikanth, Sankar Muthusamy and Shriyanshi advance

Kidambi Srikanth, Shriyanshi Valishetty, and S. Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian all registered straight-game wins to move into the quarterfinals at the ongoing Canada Open BWF Super 300 badminton in Calgary.

The results (pre-quarterfinals): Men: Kidambi Srikanth bt Wang Po-Wei (Tpe) 21-19, 21-14; Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian bt Huang Yu Kai (Tpe) 21-19, 21-14. **Women:** Shriyanshi Valishetty bt Letshanaa Karupathevan (Mas) 21-15, 21-14.

Former Nigeria goalkeeper Rufai passes away

Former Nigeria international goalkeeper Peter Rufai passed away aged 61 following an illness, the national football federation said on Thursday. Popularly known as Dodomayana, Rufai earned 65 caps for Nigeria and featured at the 1994 and 1998 FIFA World Cup finals. He was also part of the Super Eagles squad when Nigeria won a second Africa Cup of Nations trophy in Tunisia in 1994, beating Zambia 2-1.

Advani in 6-red snooker quarters at C'wealth billiards

India's multiple-time World champion Pankaj Advani outplayed Australia's Xavier Daw 3-1 to make the 6-red snooker quarterfinals in the inaugural Commonwealth billiards championships in Balaclava (Mauritius) on Friday.

The results: Men: Pankaj Advani bt Xavier Daw (Aus) 3-1 (16-27, 42 (42) -17, 36-16, 34-23); Michael Georgiou (Cyp) bt Brijesh Damani 3-1 (34-32, 48-1, 31-33, 34-39).
Women: Keerthana Pandian (Ind) bt Simphiwe Dlamini (Swz) 2-1 (49-5, 52-1); Anupama Ramachandran (Ind) bt Lilly Meldrum (Aus) 2-1 (46-5, 14-24, 33-11); Tan Kim Mei (Mas) bt Arantxa Sanchis 2-0 (53-7, 37-19).

LIVE TELECAST

Football: Club World Cup, DAZN, 6.30 a.m., 9.30 p.m. (Saturday); 1.30 a.m. (Sunday)
Sri Lanka vs Bangladesh: 2nd ODI, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 2.30 p.m.
Wimbledon: Star Sports 1, SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.
England vs India: 2nd Test, day 4, Sony Sports Ten 1, 5 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.
Javelin: Neeraj Chopra Classic, JioHotstar, 6.30 p.m.
West Indies vs Australia: 2nd Test, day 3, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.
Formula One: British GP, (Qualifying), F1 TV, F1 TV Pro App & FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

Neeraj Chopra Classic — a milestone moment in Indian athletics

The 27-year-old two-time Olympic medallist will face stiff competition from the likes of Rohler, Yego, Thompson and Mauricio da Silva

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

The Neeraj Chopra Classic, which will be held at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium here on Saturday, signifies a milestone moment in Indian athletics.

This is India's maiden international javelin competition in a World Athletics Category A meet.

The strong field of 12, which includes co-host and home favourite Neeraj Chopra, consists of elite Olympic and World champions.

For Neeraj, bringing an extravaganza of this magnitude to home shores is a dream come true.

"I feel like I'm in a dream. Medals are a different thing. But I have given something like this to India and Indian athletes. I'm very happy about that. This is the beginning of a new chapter in our athletics," Neeraj said.

New chapter: Yego, Rohler, Neeraj and Sachin at a press conference ahead of the event. K. MURALI KUMAR

"There are so many international competitions in countries like Germany every week — A, B, C category events. That's what I want here in India, at least four to five world-class meets every year. Our athletes should get these opportunities and the public should watch them live. I never thought such an event would take place. I am at peace... I'm able to give something back to India," Neeraj added.

The 27-year-old two-time Olympic medallist is set to break all barriers. Tickets, priced between ₹299 and ₹9,999, are selling quickly. There are over 20 sponsors on board for this one-day competition. Such heightened interest has never been seen before for an Indian athletics event.

Distracted

Neeraj, who at the Doha Diamond League broke the 90m mark for the very first time, is among the favourites to claim the title. By his own admission, Neeraj is distracted with tournament organisation duties. But come Saturday, when the big crowd cheers his every move, Neeraj is bound to produce his best.

Fans can expect serious competition from the likes of Germany's Thomas Rohler (2016 Olympic champion), Kenya's Julius Yego (2015 World champion), USA's Curtis Thompson (2023 Pan American Games champion) and Brazilian powerhouse Luiz Mauricio da Silva.

Sachin Yadav — touted as Neeraj's successor — Rohit Yadav, Sahil Silwal and Yash Vir Singh are the other Indians in the fray.

The NC Classic was shifted to Bengaluru from Panchkula due to floodlight issues at the Tau Devi Lal Stadium. The India-Pakistan tensions also led the event to be postponed.

All these blips will become a mere footnotes once the spears pierce the Bengaluru night sky.

The field: Neeraj Chopra, Cyprian Mrzyglod (Pol), Luiz Mauricio da Silva (Bra), Thomas Rohler (Ger), Curtis Thompson (USA), Martin Konecny (Pol), Julius Yego (Ken), Rumesh Pathirage (Sri), Sachin Yadav, Rohit Yadav, Sahil Silwal, Yash Vir Singh.

Rohler and Yego's contrasting journeys to the top of javelin

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Thomas Rohler and Julius Yego had fascinating starts to their javelin careers. Rohler's journey as a junior began with him being a promising high jump and triple jump athlete, with the German even winning medals in junior National competitions.

It was only much later that his interest in javelin throw took over, leading to a shift in path.

Kenyan Yego, on the other hand, was destined for a life in distance running. As a child in Cheptonon, Yego took a long trek to school every day, and was well suited to excel in his nation's favourite sport.

Incredibly, Yego's heart was set on javelin, so much so that he watched endless YouTube videos to learn the nuances of the sport. Yego's remarkable rise led to a world championship victory in 2015, and a silver medal at the 2016 Rio Olympics. What made these achievements all the more remarkable was that they came at a time when javelin was dominated by Europeans.

To each its own: While Yego's heart was set on javelin from the beginning, Rohler took up the sport only after competing in other events like high jump and triple jump. K. MURALI KUMAR

"When I came up, it was only me and the Egyptian (Ihab Abdelrahman) who were different from others, because javelin was dominated by Europeans. Now, javelin has gone global. And then (Neeraj) Chopra arrived. Javelin is no longer confined to Europe," Yego said in a press conference conducted on the eve of the Neeraj Chopra Classic here.

Rohler's career highlight came at Rio 2016, where he won gold. Rohler's personal best of 93.90m in 2017 puts him in elite company. To breach the 90m mark takes a heavy toll on the body, Rohler said.

"Any 90m throw has a huge impact on the body. When you hit 90m, you have to rest a little bit. The impact is high - equivalent to a one-tonne impact on the block foot. This is not yoga. It is really tough," Rohler said.

Bayern stands before PSG in battle between favourites

CLUB WORLD CUP

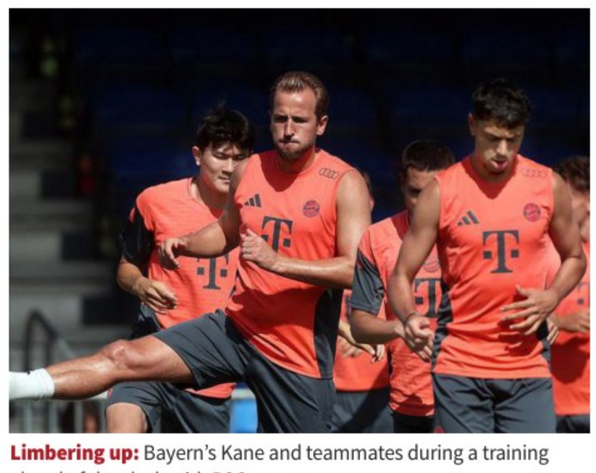
Agence France-Presse
ATLANTA

A glance at the quarterfinal line-up for the Club World Cup suggests that whoever comes out on top in the heavyweight last-eight showdown between Paris Saint-Germain and Bayern Munich on Saturday will be the favourite to go on and win FIFA's new competition.

Real Madrid can never be ruled out, but the Spanish giant is a work in progress under new coach Xabi Alonso as it takes on Borussia Dortmund in the other quarterfinal.

PSG came to the United States fresh from winning the UEFA Champions League, and Luis Enrique's side has eased its way to the quarterfinals despite a slip-up against Brazil's Botafogo in the group stage.

Bayern finished second in its group behind Benfica but the manner with which it disposed of Flamengo in the last 16, with Harry Kane scoring twice in a 4-2 victory, showed that the German champion means business.



Limbering up: Bayern's Kane and teammates during a training ahead of the clash with PSG. REUTERS

Vincent Kompany's team has netted 16 goals across four matches and may now feel it has a point to prove after falling short in the Champions League.

PSG, meanwhile, is fresh from crushing Lionel Messi's Inter Miami 4-0 in the last 16 and the dream of a world title to add to its French and European crowns is very much alive.

This will be PSG's 63rd match in all competitions going back to the start of the Ligue 1 season last August, and Enrique is hoping for one last push from his exhausted players before they can enjoy a short summer break.

Enrique's squad held a long moment's silence before training on Thursday after learning of Protugal and Liverpool player Diogo Jota's death, as did Bayern ahead of its session.

AIFF opens application process for new men's head coach

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Friday began the process to find a new head coach for its under-fire men's national team, setting July 13 as the last date for interested applicants, who must have at least 10 years of experience and "cultural sensitivity" among other qualifications.

The process has been necessitated by the departure of Spaniard Manolo Marquez from the position.

"The 'head coach - senior men's national team' will report to the AIFF secretary general and is accountable for the performance of the team in all matches and competitions it participates in during the term of the coach's contract," the AIFF stated on its website.

'I am ready to start fresh with India-A'

Taking notice: Varun will be keen on putting his hand up and performing. FILE PHOTO

HOCKEY

Press Trust of India
BENGALURU

Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Varun Kumar is eyeing a comeback to the Indian men's hockey team with some good performances with the India-A squad in the upcoming tour of Europe.

Varun, a potent defender, failed to make the Paris Olympics squad, and has been out of the senior side for over a year. He was last seen in India colours during the friendly match against Germany in New Delhi in June last year.

The drag-flicker has set his sights on next month's Asia Cup to be held in Rajgir to make his comeback.

"Certainly, my personal goal is to return to the senior team. But more important for me right now is to improve my game," said Varun. "Missing out on the Paris Olympics was painful. I know I was in the reckoning to make the squad. I have left the past behind and am ready to start fresh with this opportunity," he added.

24 teams for Durand Cup football

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

A total of 24 teams will vie for the top honours in the 134th edition of the Durand Cup, Asia's oldest football tournament, to be played across five states from July 23 till August 23.

The 24 teams will be divided into six groups and the world's third oldest tournament will be played in West Bengal, Jharkhand, Manipur, Meghalaya and Assam. President Droupadi Murmu unveiled the trophies of the tournament, organised by the Indian Army, at a function at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here on Friday.

Addressing the gathering, President Murmu said: "Sports promote discipline, determination and team spirit. Sports have the unique power to connect people, regions and countries. In India, it has been a powerful tool for national integration. I am happy to join this tradition of unveiling the Durand Cup trophies."

SNAPSHOTS

Nico Williams. REUTERS

Riya makes doubles final in Bucharest

Riya Bhatia and Sada Nahimana beat Rutuja Bhosale and Wushuang Zheng 6-3, 6-3 in the doubles semifinals of the $60,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Bucharest, Romania, on Friday.

Other results: $100,000 Challenger, Cary, USA: Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals: Kody Pearson (Aus) & Joshua Sheehy (USA) bt Niki Poonacha & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan 6-7(4), 6-2, [10-2].
€91,250 Challenger, Brasov, Romania: Doubles: Semifinals: Vladyslav Orlov (Ukr) & Santiago Taverna (Arg) bt Siddhant Banthia & Alexander Donski (Bul) 5-7, 6-4, [10-8].
$30,000 ITF men, Hillcrest, South Africa: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Gerard Henning & Philip Henning (RSA) bt Ishaque Eqbal & Thando Longwe-Smit (RSA) 6-4, 6-7(1), 6-3.
$15,000 ITF women, Hillcrest: Quarterfinals: Lexue Xiao (Chn) bt Smriti Bhasin 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.
$15,000 ITF women, Los Angeles: Pre-quarterfinals: Krisha Mahendran bt Claire An (USA) 6-2, 6-0.

Williams snubs Barca, extends Bilbao stay

Athletic Bilbao announced on Friday that coveted forward Nico Williams had extended his contract to 2035 with an increased release clause, warding off reported interest from LaLiga champion Barcelona.
The deal extends the contract by eight years, the club said.